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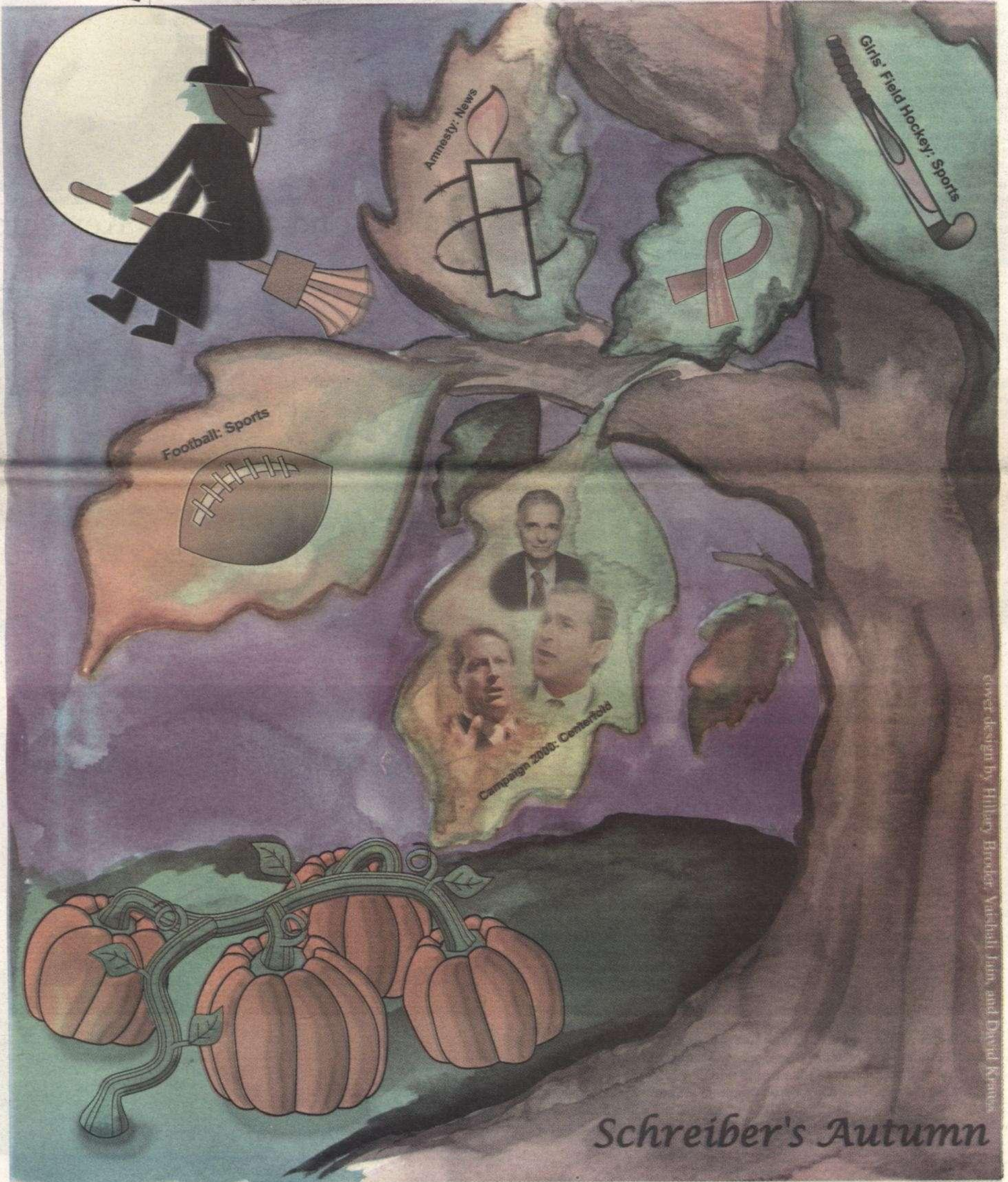
The Schreiber Times



2000

Paul D. Schreiber High School Port Washington, New York Volume LI No. 2
<http://times.portnet.k12.ny.us>

Friday, October 27, 2000



cover design by Hillary Broder, Yachael Jann, and David Kramer

Schreiber's Autumn

NEWS BRIEFS

Birds of prey demonstration today

A birds of prey demonstration is scheduled to take place today, October 27, in room 140 during period two. However, this time is subject to change. The demonstration will feature live birds of prey such as eagles, owls, hawks, falcons and possibly a vulture. The audience will be able to view birds up close and see a few of the birds fly. The demonstration will focus mainly on the adaptations of the birds and how the bird hunt is helped.

The Theodore Roosevelt Sanctuary in Oyster Bay is presenting the demonstration. For more information, you can call the sanctuary at (516) 922-3200. Anyone who would like to attend is invited to do so. For more information regarding the times of the demonstrations contact zoology teacher Mr. Jim Jones in the Biology Preparation Room.

-Ritesh Chatterjee

GAA holds costume collection



Hillary Broder

The Girls Athletic Association collected "gently used" and new halloween costumes for children, ages infant to eighteen years of age, at the St. Mary's Childrens Hospital in Bayside. The collection occurred on October 19, in the main lobby, from 7:45 a.m.-8:05 a.m., 12 noon-1p.m. and 2:50 p.m.-3:15 p.m.

Aids Awareness plans charitable events



Aids Awareness members freshmen Phyllis Record, Christa Bordeaux, sophomores Sophie Porter, Kate Dellon, Jennifer Isseson, junior Amy Kerzner, advisor Ms. Annette Keenan, sophomores Nicole Cohen, Dahlia Motehede, Natalie Nehori, Valerie Soichet, and Cathy Rabago, freshmen Lauren Costa and Christine Choe, seniors Nikki DiStefano, Amanda Charney, and sophomores Lisa Conte and Jennifer Lopez plan for their upcoming events. Members sold chocolate lollipops on October 19 and 20 to raise money for the club. The club is also planning a fashion show to benefit the Make-a-Wish Foundation in conjunction with the Leader's Club.

Model Congress holds state assembly debate

Model Congress sponsored a discussion between candidates for New York State Assembly, Tom DiNapoli and Jerome Galluscio, in the Weber Middle School auditorium on September 16 at 7:30 p.m. The objective of this activity was to introduce Port Washington residents to the officers who directly represent their interests.

The evening opened with a welcome statement from Model Congress president senior Ian Jay and advisor Mr. Harry Anderson, who presented the two candidates. Mr. Galluscio gave a brief introduction focusing on his career, his history, and his plans for education and environmental protection. Mr. DiNapoli discussed his past achievements in the New York State Assembly and his plans on continuing his advancements in representing this region.

The dialogue consisted mostly of viewpoints regarding education. Both candidates spoke about their opinions on saving money for education, the bond issue, and vouchers for private schools.

The session ended with a series of questions from the audience and a closing speech from Jay.

-Merve Emre

Corrections

The Schreiber Times would like to note the following corrections in the October 6, 2000 issue from the article "Pippin will grace the Schreiber stage." The role of Catherine will be performed by Jenny Gamell, not Joe Santoro. Instead, Santoro will play Lewis. Additionally, Dana Brenman is no longer a member of the cast and Laura Silver will join the cast as a player.

Schreiber News Line is in action!



Ira Glasser

Senior Kerin Weinberg is busy at work on the Schreiber Newsline (SNL.) Cookies and cakes for Key club charity



Ira Glasser

(l-r)(f-b) Seniors Nitya Rehani, Floyd Feather, Ruth Klienman, Natasha Pavlovic, and Sarah Morgan prepare cookies, muffins, and other baked goods for the Key Club bake sale on October 18. The club raised one hundred thirty-seven dollars and will donate the money to a charity of their choice.

Rent-a-Senior Day attempts to integrate freshmen

by Sam Salkin

Rent-a-Senior Day, an event sponsored by the Student Council, took place on October 6. This event enables freshmen to pay a dollar and "rent" a senior for the day.

Created with the purpose of integrating freshmen within the school, seniors are at the disposal of their particular freshman and must drive their ninth graders to school, take them out for lunch, and carry their books for them.

Many participants in Rent-a-Senior Day enjoyed being part of the event. Freshman Trevor Cohen commented, "Rent-a-Senior day was a really fun

experience and a great way to kick off high school." Freshman Jordan Sinclair said, "The day was fun and a good way to get to know a senior."

Senior Joey Mandaro commented, "I think that Rent-a-Senior is a great way for ninth graders to become acclimated to Schreiber."

Student Council advisor Ms. Trish Burr considered the day a huge success, calling it "the best attended, best organized one ever, and a huge success." Executive Council officer senior Lauren Kanfi spoke for the student body when she stated, "Rent-a-Senior was a lot of fun for both the senior and freshman. It's a new tradition at Schreiber that we should continue."

Pep Rally hypes up school spirit

by Dara Bain

The Student Council sponsored a Pep Rally in order to promote school spirit on October 6.

Senior Becky Henderson sang *The Star Spangled Banner* accompanied by the marching band. Student council members seniors Adam Caslow, Edward Pak, and Jackie Weiner served as MCs of the event as they introduced the various sports teams. Senior Alex Cummins commented, "We couldn't help but get pumped listening to the band play and watching our fellow classmates."

Coach Joe Lederer and the JV Field hockey team were introduced first followed by Coach Mac McKinnon with the JV Football team. Coach AJ Gober followed with the Boys' Soccer JV team and then Coach Laura Cinelli with the Girls' JV Soccer team. The Boys' JV Soccer team with Coach Brian McGrade, the Girls' JV Tennis team with Coach Andi Uiberall, and the Girls' JV Volleyball team with Coach Erin Fealy rounded off the JV teams.

In the middle of the rally, the Portettes displayed its famous routine as the band played *On Broadway*. The Varsity teams presented themselves to the student

body. The Cross Country team, led by Coach Bob Acevedo, came out first, followed by the Boys' Soccer team with

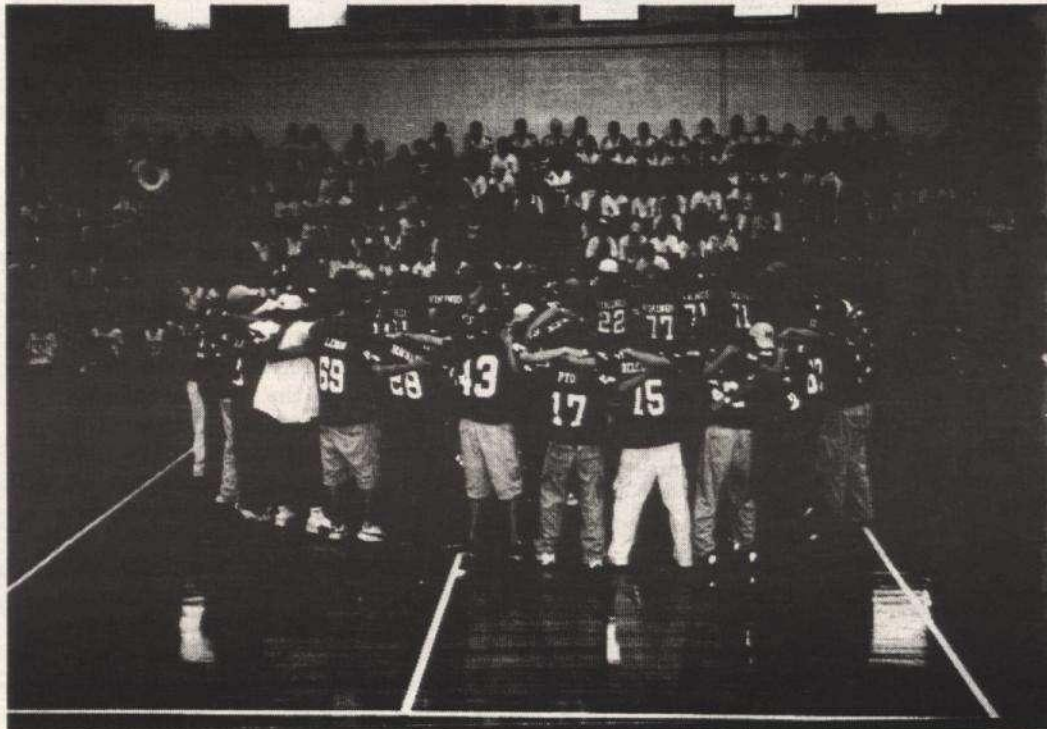
Coach Roger Winter, the Girls' Soccer team with Coach Stephanie Joannon, and the Girls' Swimming team with Coach

Meghan Freeley. Last came the Girls' Tennis team with Coach Stan Makover and the Girls' Volleyball team with Coach Maria Giamanco.

The winners of the Pep Rally cheering contest was the Girls' Varsity Soccer team in first place and Varsity Field Hockey in second. JV Field Hockey came in first in the JV level, followed by Girls' JV Tennis, who secured second place.

Finally, as another measure to encourage school spirit, a color contest was held for the entire school. Freshmen were asked to wear yellow, sophomores; green; juniors, white; and seniors, blue. The class with the most students wearing the appropriate color would be determined the winner and the junior class emerged victorious.

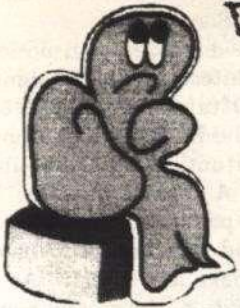
Weiner commented, "The pep rally was a great success and the teams did a wonderful job on their performances."



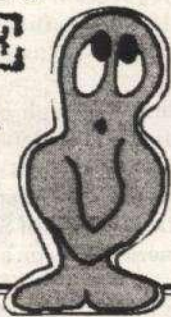
The Varsity Football team huddles during the Pep Rally presentation. The members psyching themselves up for the Homecoming game against Clark that took place on October 7.

Vanessa Shinda

What's the first 4-letter word you think of?



If it's not
S-A-F-E
maybe you
should
think again...



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Homecoming dance spreads jungle fever

by Adam Carron

The cafeteria became the scene of the Jungle Boogie homecoming dance sponsored by Student Council on October 7 at 7:30 p.m. As a culmination to Pride in Port, over three hundred students attended the dance with tickets they bought during school for two dollars or at the door for four dollars.

The cafeteria was decorated in a jungle theme. In order to accomplish this, about twenty students came early to help complete the task. Dangling at the door were green and orange streamers, which were intended to make students feel as if they were entering a jungle. To the right of the door senior deejay Derek Hafer was surrounded by large speakers and rotating blue strobe lights. Hafer

began the dance with a great variety of hip-hop and rhythm and blues. Later on he played some new-age rock.

Student Council executive officer senior Edward Pak stated, "This homecoming dance was the best one I ever attended and I never expected a turnout of over three hundred people. I was astonished by the way the students were dancing all night and I think that the majority of the credit for the success belongs to deejay Derek Hafer." He then jokingly revealed, "The only thing about this dance I wasn't pleased with was that I was the only one who dressed appropriately." "Appropriately" meant to Pak shorts and a thin piece of fabric against his chest--the Tarzan look.

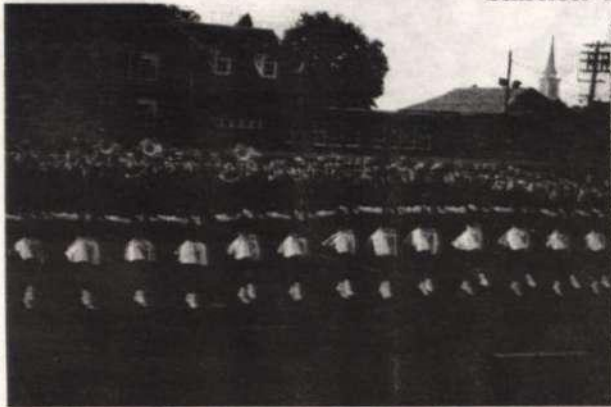
Student council advisor Ms. Trish Burr commented, "As soon as I saw about twenty kids that devoted their time to decorate the cafeteria, I knew that this dance was going to be a huge hit. The dances only started being well attended last year and this one was the best one to date. I think that the deejay was improbable."



Town celebrates Pride in Port

by Nicole Tingir

The Port Washington Community celebrated Pride in Port through a variety of community and school activities on



The Portettes and the Marching Band perform at the half-time of the homecoming game. The Homecoming game was part of the Pride in Port celebration.

October 7. Highlights of the day included a Pride in Port Day parade and a varsity football game, which was played at Schreiber.

The festivities began with an Athletic Hall of Fame Breakfast held in the Schreiber cafeteria at 9 am. Schreiber alumni athletic inductees were honored at this breakfast and later inducted at the half-time show. This year's inductees were Charles A. Kazaria, class of 1933, Roger Sexauer, class of 1976, Brian Tomeo, class of 1990, Lisa Bradley, class of 1983, Anthony Schettino, class of 1990 and James Murchie, class of 1975.

The parade began at noon and progressed from the Landmark on Main Street to Schreiber High School. The Grand Marshall-Port Washington Volunteer Fire

Department led the festivities. The Ex-Chiefs of the Port Washington Volunteer Fire Department, the Pride in Port Chair People (Barbara Falcon, James Duncan and Amy Rubenstein), the family of Barbara Johnson, the Port Washington and Sands Point Police Departments and the Nassau County Auxiliary Police Unit 205 from Port Washington were in the first division division.

The second division began with the Board of Education, followed by the Hall of Fame Inductees, the Port Washington High School Class of 1950, and the Pride in Port essay contest winners. The Port Washington School floats followed. Schreiber's King and Queen, seniors Stuart Katz and Blythe Ford, and the prince and princess, juniors Bob Ogrudek and Christine Klement preceded the twelfth grade float, eleventh grade float, tenth grade float and the Weber Middle School Float. The St. Peter's Students, Manorhaven students, Daly students, the Guggenheim float and the Sousa float followed. The Schreiber Marching Band, the Portettes, and the Port Silks also marched and provided entertainment for the viewers.

In division three, spectators cheered

as the Nassau County Police Department Emerald Society Pipe Band, the Parent Resource Center, the Twin Pines, the Community Chest the Port Washington Children's Center paraded. The Tokey Hill Karate students, Residents For a More Beautiful Port Washington,



The Marching Band dazzles crowds at the Pride in Port Parade.

the North Shore Animal League of America and Boy Scout Troop 241 also participated.

The parade ended with the New York Shields Pipes and Drums, the Knights of Columbus, the Columbiettes, the Chamber of Commerce, the World Tae Kwon Do Academy, Sons of Italy, the Cow Neck Historical Society, and Cub Scout Pack number seventy-seven.

continued on page 6...

Town creates land use plan

by Caroline Axelrod

The annual Residents for a More Beautiful Port Washington town meeting took place on October 19 at 7:30pm. Land expert Peter Kumble presented a plan to create a more sustainable Port Washington at this meeting. Residents, a Port Washington based non-profit organization designed to address environmental conditions in Port Washington, hired Kumble from Land Ethics, Inc. based in Ann Arbor, Michigan. Kumble's job was to assess the four large open spaces in Port Washington and determine the best way to utilize them. He hopes to gain funding for obtainment of the open spaces. He also evaluated the groundwater provisions for the Morewood-Harbor Ridge development. The goal of this project is to "improve and preserve the quality of life on the Port Washington peninsula," according to Kurt Trinko, a Residents vice president.

Evaluation began in June 1999 and continued in March 2000. Aside from the evaluation, local elected officials and municipal staff, county officials, non-profit agencies, and local citizens met in two public workshops to discuss their hopes for the future of Port Washington and the problems that are most prominent on the peninsula. The focus of the improvements for a more sustainable Port Washington are the Dallas Realty and Lewis Oil properties in Port Washington North, the Thyphin Steel property in Manorhaven, and the Morewood site in the unincorporated Village of Port Washington. Kumble and Residents hope to utilize the space for recreational and residential purposes.

In order to calculate the correct amount of recreation facilities for each section of the community, the amount of public open space is compared to the National Park and Recreation Association (NPRA). The NPRA is an organization that sets a quota for the smallest quantity of park and recreation facilities based upon the population.

The Dallas Realty site in the Village of Port Washington North is twenty acres short of NPRA standards (9.6 acres of local perks per one thousand residents).

Preserving half of this forty-acre site will meet these guidelines. Proposals will dedicate 40.9 acres for development.

The Lewis Oil site, also in Port Washington North, is divided into the east side of Shore Road and a smaller portion on the Manhasset Bay waterfront on the west side of Shore Road. The east side is planned to accommodate expansions of the existing Delco Shopping plaza. This will be difficult because it is very likely that an environmental clean-up will be required as a result of its use for oil storage. The plans also intended to use the waterfront land as a public park as well as a green way or public trail through the larger portion.

The Thyphin Steel site is now being under consideration for residential use by the Village of Manorhaven. The plan hopes to develop the land residentially as well as allocate space for public access to the Manhasset Bay waterfront.

The last section of land being observed for changes is Morewood, located on the east side of the peninsula in the unincorporated section of Port Washington. A senior housing development, Harbor Ridge, is part of this land and hopes to comprise of forty-two acres of land that will accommodate 1,270 residents. The main concern with this proposal is the lack of groundwater to support the large population. The Port Washington Water District has only appropriated 20 million gallons of water per year to the Harbor Ridge development. However, these estimates were revised and the amount of water has increased to permit an addition of 540 residents. This limitation was created in order to maintain the rest of the site as open space for insurance of future groundwater supply.

The next step in the development of this plan is to create a regional coordinating government organization that will supervise the political and land use decisions. This type of organization will provide connection between thoughts and concerns of local governments, state and county agencies, and local citizens. Residents for a More Beautiful Port Washington will help in this endeavor by gaining funding, creating and maintaining regional partnerships and coalitions, and promoting the importance of open space preservation.

Amnesty heightens awareness of child soldiers

by Matt Brod

Members of Amnesty International and students from various sociology classes wore army clothes to school in order to generate awareness of child soldiers on October 12. Amnesty International is an organization that aims to protect and promote human rights around the world.

There are approximately three hundred thousand children around the world under the age of eighteen that are engaged in armed conflict in many different countries. These children are too young to understand when they are manipulated and drawn into violence because of their emotional and physical immaturity. An estimated 1.5 million children are killed in war and approximately four million are disabled. More than twelve million children have lost their



Amnesty International members pose in army clothes in order to increase awareness of child soldiers on October 12.

homes, and another five million have been forced to live in camps. One million have been separated from their families as a result of war. The emotional shock and abuse child soldiers face often diminishes their potential to be self-sufficient citizens.

There is an effective agenda that can bring about the end of the use of child soldiers. This agenda includes a number of key elements. The first of these is a distinct international agreement that

forbids the recruitment in armed conflict of children under the age of eighteen. The next is the suppression of the easy availability of small arms and the rejection of military assistance that simplifies the use of child soldiers by governments and military groups. Another is the strong urgency by international agencies and such organizations against armed groups that recruit children for military service. An additional element is rehabilitation programs that provide former child soldiers with the counseling they need to rejoin a non-militant society. The last of the components to reduce the possibility of child recruitment is to rejoin displaced children with their families and support programs that

offer alternative sources for income. The United States has made efforts to eliminate the use of child soldiers through humanitarian aid programs. America provides over twenty million dollars per year to programs that assist displaced children and victims of war. However, the United States has been a major supplier of military support and training to conflicts where child soldiers are being used.

Sarah Morgan



Ms. Carol Hulse retires from Phys Ed department

by Max Sokol

Ms. Carol Hulse retired from her position as a physical education teacher last June. Ms. Hulse began and ended her thirty-one year teaching career at Schreiber.

Above all, Ms. Hulse enjoyed working with children. She was advisor of the Leukemia Society and the Leader's Club. Both clubs raise money to help various charities throughout the community, such as the Lauri Strauss Leukemia Society and local scholarships.

Upon retirement, Ms. Hulse hopes to remain active by excelling in the game of golf and continuing her hobby of boating. As winter approaches, she will travel to the southern part of the country to

stay warm.

Ms. Hulse will not forget her teaching experience at Schreiber. She loved coming to work every day and spending time with her coworker Ms. Maria Giamanco. As Ms. Hulse moves on, her advice to students is to make the most out of their education. Ms. Hulse stated, "Don't be afraid to try new adventures in life."

Ms. Hulse enjoyed working at Schreiber very much. She believes that the variety of students and cultures in the school really makes Schreiber what it is. When asked if she accomplished what she hoped to as a teacher, she responded "Yes, it was a great thirty-one years." She also noted, "It was time (to retire). I wanted to get out and enjoy my life."



Mr. James Massa puts auto department into full gear

by Matt Chin

The Technology Department welcomes its newest addition, Mr. James Massa as a Driver Education and Auto Shop teacher.

Mr. Massa has taught automobile courses for thirty years in New York City schools such as John F. Kennedy Bronx and Brooklyn Automotive High School. The three reasons that he decided to teach here is that the school is close to his home, the position pays better, and there

is a higher and better level of material. When asked what his favorite aspects of teaching were he stated, "Everything-there's no one favorite thing. I love it all."

Mr. Massa's goals for this school year are to build the Auto Shop course up to a level where all students will feel comfortable taking it. He says that he already has a "phenomenal and absolutely fantastic" impression of the students, faculty, and campus of Schreiber. Mr. Massa advises students to take the Auto Shop course, and looks forward to a productive year.



Mr. Rocco Nofi retires after a long lasting career

After teaching in the Technology Department at Schreiber High School since 1969, Mr. Rocco Nofi decided to retire from teaching in the summer. Mr. Nofi, far right, poses with Ms. Meagan Freely and Ms. Amy Prochaska at his retirement party. The dinner was held on Thursday October 19 at the Swan Club and was which was hosted by the Schreiber High School faculty.

Ms. Ronni Smithline joins Schreiber as guidance head

by Jennifer Schmirer

Ms. Ronni Smithline is the new District Director of Guidance for kindergarten through twelfth grade in the Port Washington School District. After attending Adelphi University as an undergraduate, she received a Masters in Guidance and School Counseling from Hunter College. She also has a professional diploma in educational leadership and administration from C.W. Post.

Ms. Smithline has been involved with education for approximately

thirty years. She previously worked in the Lindenhurst public schools, where she was the Director of Guidance and taught English and Reading at the middle and high school level.

So far, Ms. Smithline finds Schreiber to be a terrific school with very friendly students and a supportive staff. Her favorite aspect of her career as a guidance counselor is being able to talk to students and meet with their parents. Ms. Smithline wants to work with the other counselors to make sure that all of the students receive the best and most challenging academic programs. Her best advice to students is to get involved in school by finding something to do that you enjoy, and always making sure you have someone with whom to talk.



Port Report

Pride in Port continued from page 4

After the parade, field day events were held at the Schreiber baseball field from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. In Touch Entertainment provided amusement while participants engaged in a variety of activities, which included a treasure hunt, a castle bounce, pumpkin painting, the making of sand bracelets, animal spin art, and rock climbing. The Port Washington Police Department as well as State Farm Insurance were available from one thirty to two thirty to take picture ID's and fingerprints of kids six years old and younger.

During field day, a senior citizen luncheon took place at the Schreiber Cafeteria. The Human Relations Club served the attendees spaghetti, salad, cookies, and cake.

The homecoming football then began at 2 p.m. Senior Stephanie Borris sang the National Anthem. Schreiber's Vikings played Carey High School, which resulted in a disappointing loss

with a score of seven to fourteen. At half-time, the Hall of Fame inductees were announced and the Royal Court was introduced. The marching band, which accompanied the Portettes and Port Silks, provided entertainment.

Nighttime activities were provided for both students and adults. The Student Council held a Homecoming Dance in the cafeteria from 7pm to 10pm. A Pride in Port Dinner-Dance for adults was organized at the Polish American Hall. Live music was provided by *Juke Box Saturday Nite* and the dinner featured cuisine from more than one hundred Port Washington restaurants and eateries.

When asked about her final thoughts on the day, Ms. Rubenstein commented, "The feedback has been extremely positive...the day turned out perfectly. The weather was wonderful and everyone was so positive. The community came out and supported it...it showed that there is pride in Port."

Students urges observation of traffic safety

by Ruth Kleinman

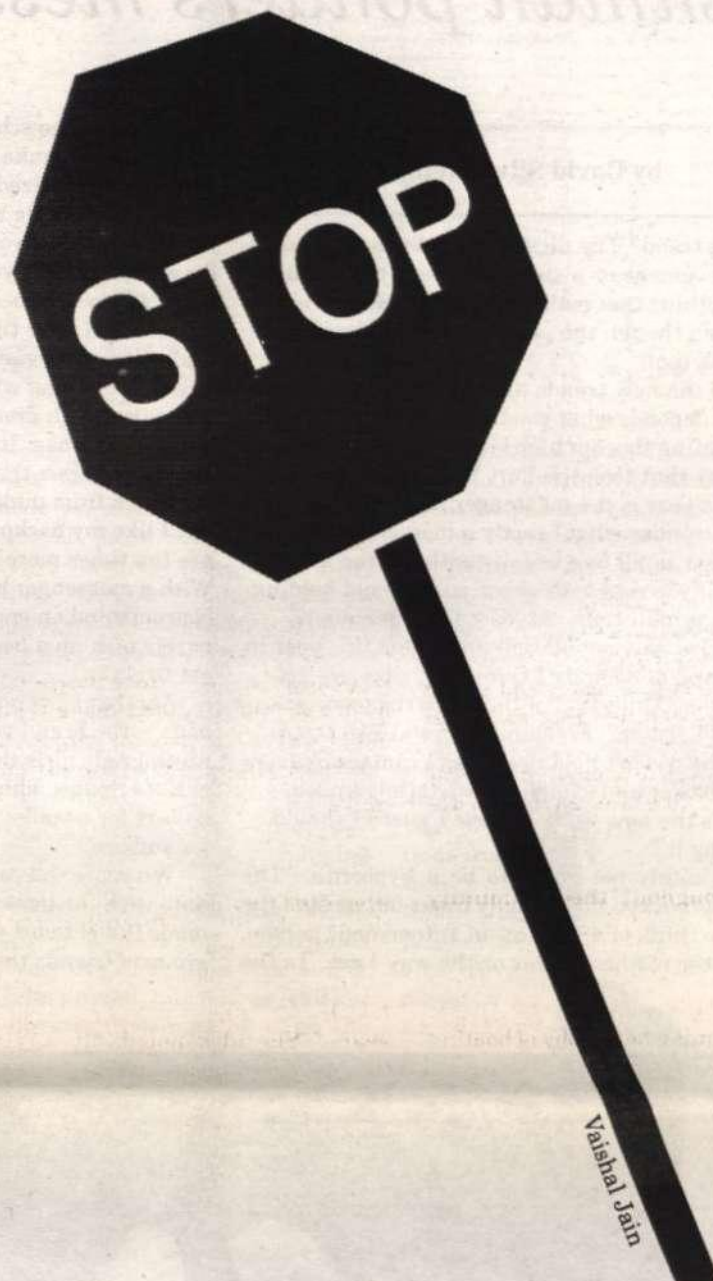
As a teenager and a new driver, I have several concerns that I wish to address pertaining to the rules of the road. First, the number of residents of Port Washington, let alone all of America, who do not drive properly baffles me. Teenagers have been stereotyped as "reckless drivers," and we are the most likely age group to be pulled over by the police. Teenagers and inexperienced drivers are the ones most often attacked and blamed for accidents and mishaps. However, I have found that even experienced drivers may not follow the laws, but they are not caught. It is completely contradictory that they are the ones complaining about young drivers breaking laws when they themselves are also guilty. There are rules of the road for a reason; they are supposed to provide safety for everyone. My point is that if experienced drivers are not willing to abide by laws, then they cannot expect inexperienced drivers like myself to do so either.

If policemen and other officials were to enforce certain laws already in existence, then maybe the government would not have to create new laws that seem absurd to the common driver. I believe that if police were more visible, crashes and deaths would decrease. Think about it—how many times do you or your parents make a full stop at a stop sign? You probably do not do so very often. But think about this: when there is a police car behind you, would you make a complete stop? The mere presence of police, at the very least, would solve this problem.

As of January 1, 2001, the use of talking on a hand held cellular phone while driving will be prohibited in Suffolk County. This law will probably "leak" into Nassau County in the near future. If this is the case, then there should be another portion of the law stating that absolutely anything distracting to a driver should be prohibited. This means that smoking a cigarette or eating food while driving should also be against the law, because these actions can be a distraction and result in deadly outcomes.

Personally, I do not think the government should be banning cell phone use in the first place. I disagree with the law, but obviously I will have to abide by it while driving. While I am behind the wheel, I know where my comfort level is in terms of keeping my hands on the wheel and keeping myself in control of the vehicle. How can the government decide when someone is or is not in control of his/her own vehicle? Is it not also possible that a driver could have both hands on the wheel and still lose control? In fact, statistics have shown that no significant increase in car crashes has occurred since the introduction of cell phones.

I am not the only driver that is new to the road. Each semester, the roads are taken over by a new group of youngsters who need to be properly educated as to driver safety. I am sure that I am not the only person who has these thoughts and complaints. Tell your parents and older siblings who drive to think about all the teenagers who need to learn the correct rules of the road. Everyone needs to make a conscious effort when driving not only to keep themselves and others safe, but also to set an example for new drivers.



Senior feels unsafe in Monfort lot

Lighting and emergency phones are needed

by Alexandra Pavlakis

When I took a tour of the University of Pennsylvania campus last year, the number of security measures scared me. The campus was crawling with emergency phones, security guards, and escort vans. I felt that if a college needed so many safety measures, it must not be too secure. However, despite my yearning for an open campus, some security measures are necessary.

I feel that there is often a lack of security here at Schreiber. No one should feel unsafe leaving the high school grounds. However, I am afraid to walk down to Montfort hill at night by myself. Unfortunately, I am forced to do so since I often work on the newspaper and tend to leave late into the night.

Even when I head down Monfort with other people, I do not feel secure.

The entire pathway is pitch black and winds through a forested area. Although there is one light at the beginning of the path, after the turn there is no other security measure.

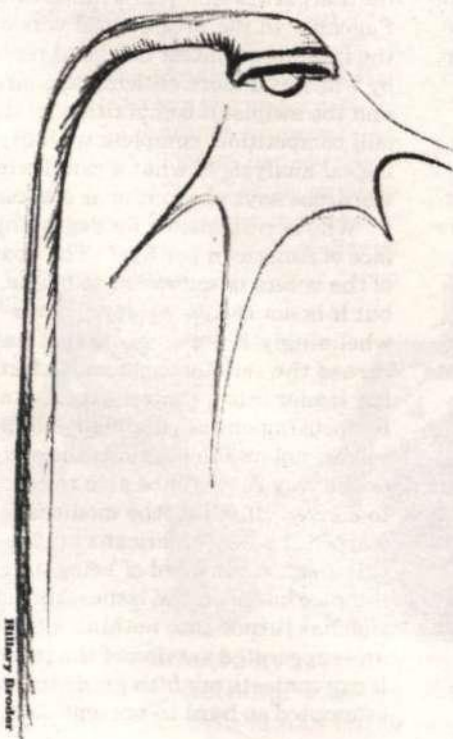
In addition to the security aspects of the problem, during stormy weather or ice, walking down the stairs in complete darkness is outright dangerous. If someone was to slip and fall, no one would be around and there would be no way to get help. Another light would ameliorate the problem by making students less weary of the walk and less likely to lose their balance. The implementation of an emergency phone could be a lifesaver in certain situations.

I do not believe that the school should be wired with security cameras, or that the doorways should be installed with metal detectors. The need for such measures would make me believe that Schreiber has a strong enough need to employ them. Yet, it is

a student's right to feel secure and not fear walking to the student parking lot at night.

It is Schreiber's duty to make sure its students are protected. This should be easy when the solution to the problem is simply another light and an emergency phone. After sports, newspaper, drama practice, or yearbook, many students have to embark upon the long trek down the hill. Making the walk just a little safer will cost the school district basically nothing but will make a drastic difference in the daily lives of many members of the Schreiber community.

This is a problem that has a simple solution. If faculty or administrative members needed to walk down the Montfort path, this problem probably would have been corrected years ago. I am asking the school district to recognize this possible hazard and correct it before something that could have been prevented happens.



What are trends really worth anyway?

Freshman ponders messenger bag trend

by David Silverstein

What is a trend? The dictionary defines a trend as a general movement or a current style. I think that a trend is something that makes someone look unoriginal and trite, even though the person participating thinks that they look cool.

What are the new trends at Schreiber High School this year? It depends what you like, whether it is baggy jeans and skating shoes or high boots and Armani pants. The accessory that took the Port Washington students by storm this year is the messenger bag.

You may wonder what exactly a messenger bag is. Well, it is a small bag usually with a strap that goes diagonally across your chest, usually not holding many books or materials. At least forty percent of the male and female population uses them this year in high school and personally I think that they are getting played out. Almost all of them are the same. So what is the big craze? Freshman Crystal Wei states, "Since my bag doesn't hold my books I constantly have to go to my locker and switch the materials I need, and since it's the new thing to have I guess I should keep on using it."

I am definitely not going to be a hypocrite. The social eye has sucked me in many times but most of the time I like to think of myself as an autonomous person, either it be the clothes I wear or the way I act. In the

beginning of the school year I had the impression that trends would make me cool. But when I walked into Schreiber I realized that it was just the opposite. In high school people really do not pay attention to what you have or what you own. Most of the students accept for who you are. If you are in with the "in crowd," which is not always the best thing, or you are an independent person with your tightly knit group of friends, nobody really cares. I guess a portion of what is so-called "trendy" is liking what you are buy or wear.

In the ninth grade, it is almost a crime not to own a messenger bag. It is like you are breaking the rules or going against the law if you still have your old backpack from middle school. Let me be rebellious, but I like my backpack. Personally, I think backpacks are ten times more comfortable and a lot less painful. With a messenger bag, the weight of books is always concentrated on one part of your shoulder, so you can barely pick up a pencil to write with by the time you get to class.

Another very important issue about messenger bags is the brand you buy. I can tell according to the ninth grade girls that the most popular brand to buy is Kate Spade, which cost nothing less than eighty dollars for a wallet and go up to two thousand dollars for suitcases.

What are the consequences if your are not up to date with the latest trends? You definitely do not get made fun of but if you were the only one out your group of friends that did not have an item or accessory

that was "in," then one might tend to get a little jealous. Sometimes jealousy can either bring down your self-esteem or even break up a friendship.

Popularity often determines the latest trends, which is something I totally despise. In middle school, the hottest best-dressed girl always went out with the cocky overconfident guy who went through puberty at the age of five. The way it works at Weber is that whatever the "popular" girls wear is what the rest of the female population of the school tries to copy. With the boys it is a little different; it is not always clothes everyone has to impersonate but attitude and personality. At the end of eighth grade, we had a bunch of boys who all thought they ruled the world and girls who looked exactly the same.

Do you see the damage that trends can do? They can destroy the way of our world as we know it. I went through three years of middle school always worrying about what I look like or how I talked and acted. It was the biggest waste of mental pre-occupation. Just try to think of going to school everyday if you are overweight, or do not have the item that everyone else is wearing, one person might ridicule you. Or if a group of people gang up on you and they bash you with jokes just so they can have a topic of conversation and then in the aftermath you explode with anger and frustration. In high school you can be who you want to be, do what you like to do, and nobody even bothers to ask "why?" In other words, it is all right to march to the beat of your own drum.

Presidential election turns into a popularity contest

by Julia Bernstein

During the fifth grade student government elections, I distinctly remember my teacher telling us that the election should not be a popularity contest. Instead, we should vote for whomever we felt would do the best job representing us, and whoever made the best speeches on the relevant issues. Of course, since we were only ten years old at the time, it turned into the exact popularity contest that my teacher had tried to prevent. But that was elementary school.

Today, it is very disturbing to note that the United States of America has degenerated into a group of people with the voting habits of my fifth grade peers. And now, in the final month before the first presidential election of the new century, the focus seems to be more on the personalities of the candidates than on their platforms. It does not seem to matter to most people that G.W. Bush's Texas executed more people than any other state in the U.S. Yet, political analysts spend hours making dire predictions of the effect that Al Gore's stiffness will have on the campaign.

The morning after each debate, the coverage is not based on what had been said, but is on the actions and the appearances of the candidates. The media has obviously decided that it is a waste of time to air information about tax plans and social security. Instead, it focuses on the candidates' behavior.

The lack of focus on ability and ideas is even more upsetting in light of recent events. Yes, Bush might have a friendly personality, but is friendliness going to help him if he is faced with a terrorist situation similar to the one in Yemen? Gore might be a great debater, but will those skills help him handle a volatile leader like the Palestinian Liberation Organization's Yassir Arafat? These are the issues voters should be focusing on, rather than whether a candidate has the right charisma and appearance to lead our country.

Unfortunately, it seems as if this campaign has merely become the male counterpart to this year's Miss America Pageant. In the presidential version, the interview contest has been replaced by who has a more enticing appearance, and the swimsuit competition by the suit competition, complete with psychological analysis of what a candidate's wardrobe says about him as a person.

Who is responsible for degrading the face of American politics? The apathy of the voters is somewhat to blame, but it is not the only culprit. Overwhelmingly, it is the media that has turned the serious business of electing our leader into a contest of personality. By focusing on the candidates themselves, not on the positions they support or the way they will be able to respond to a given situation, the media has warped the way Americans are viewing this election. Instead of being an exciting race based on the issues, this election has turned into nothing more than an exaggerated version of the popularity contests my fifth grade teacher attempted so hard to prevent.



AT STONY BROOK AN INCREDIBLE JOURNEY BEGINS WITH A CARDBOARD BOAT.

The annual student/faculty Roth Pond Regatta. The rules are simple: all boats must be homemade, and only six materials can be used - only two of which, duct tape and paint, resist water. The rewards are better: a chance to develop skills that will help you navigate through college.

The Regatta is a metaphor for how we approach education. Just as faculty and students must work together, the undergraduate experience must be a collaborative process between learning and life.

This environment has led to some of the world's most important discoveries. More importantly, it leads to a wonderful college experience. After all, the more you learn from the journey, the more you appreciate the destination.

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To what extent does Schreiber celebrate diversity?

by Jamie Sokol

On your next free period, I invite you all to visit the Schreiber cafeteria. Okay, I know this is not the most thrilling of places, but I urge you all to go. Before embarking on a twenty-minute hunt for a chair, take a good, careful look around you. No, I am not suggesting that you enjoy the beautiful scenery. (Breathtaking, isn't it?) What I am hoping you will all do is take a look at the sociological breakdown of our student body. I will put this in simple terms—take a look at who is sitting with who, and where.

Schreiber High School, and to some degree Port Washington, prides itself on being an extremely diverse community—and I agree that it is. If you take a walk down one of our hallways you will easily find at least four or five students with unique ethnic backgrounds. In fact, this past week when I was meeting with a college representative she commented on the "wonderful diversity" of our school. Obviously, she had never walked into our cafeteria.

The cafeteria says it all. Schreiber may be one of the most diverse high schools on Long Island, but our student body is perhaps one of the most racist. Is it a sheer coincidence that almost all of the Asian students eat lunch at the far end of the cafeteria? Is it a pure accident that a significant amount of

African American students choose to sit on the right hand side of the cafeteria and the Hispanics on the left? What about the fact that virtually all of the Caucasian students convene in the front and center of the room?

Clearly, a majority of the students have no desire to integrate with other people of different cultures and backgrounds than themselves. It is only natural that people feel most comfortable amongst those who share the same upbringing, but does this fact justify segregation?

I cannot read people's minds, but I can hypothesize as to why there seems to be such a strong division between cultures at Schreiber. At first, I pondered upon the idea of ignorance—but I dismissed that idea simply based on personal experience. I know for a fact that every student at our school has

been exposed to the concept of diversity and appreciation for other cultures, whether it has been in a health class or sociology class. However, Schreiber students have made it all too clear that

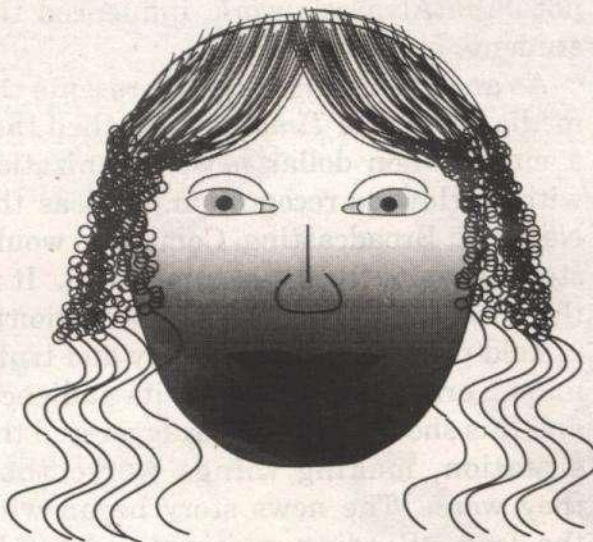
this information has gone in one ear and out the other. For example, during Mental Health Week last spring, the Health Education Department offered a number of workshops, including one entitled "Cultural Awareness." Sadly, only a minimal amount of students attended this workshop; the major-

ity unsurprisingly opted for the sex Intentionally or not, our student body has in essence adapted a policy of segregation. Nowhere in our school rules does it reserve the far end of the cafeteria for Asian students, yet everyone pretty much knows what "lines," can be crossed. This is the year

2000, not 1800! We have entered the new millennium, yet we are still thinking in the past. After high school, it is going to be impossible to go through life without interacting and integrating with people of other cultures. Part of the high school experience should be experiencing diversity, yet most of the students here have chosen to turn this experience into a negative one.

I am a senior, and for the past four years I have seen a dramatic change in Schreiber's community. Our school continues to welcome students of different cultures and backgrounds. However, the problem lies in the fact that I have yet to see our administration, students, teachers, or community take any significant action to combat the problem. A few small steps have been taken; but obviously nothing has worked. It was not until my first day of PA Sociology that I ever heard a teacher address the cafeteria issue—and this topic was only visited once.

Let's face it; society is changing faster than anyone could ever imagine. Schreiber, and more importantly the United States, is no longer a homogeneous community. Cultural diversity and awareness is an important frontier that must be explored now, not in the near future. High school should be the time that we learn about the advantages of living in a worldly environment—not the time to ignore it. Make one of your goals this year to learn about someone else's culture. You never know what you might find out.



Schreiber is one of the most diverse high schools on Long Island, yet students of different backgrounds do not seem to integrate.

Students urge you to give more thought to college

by Brienne Bellavita and Alexandra Pavlakis

Now that the college process is in full swing, it is apparent that a large moral discrepancy exists. Unlike last year when most seniors actually knew where they wanted to attend college, this year there seems to be a copious amount of indecisive seniors. As a result of this, many of the top students are "Ivy hopping." In other words, many of the students in the top 10% of the senior class are applying to the same, most prestigious universities simply to see where they can get in. The ironic aspect of this situation is that most of these students are applying to schools that they do not even want to attend. They simply want to keep their options open and be able to broadcast their acceptances. In addition, this same immoral mindset can be seen in the scholarship process.

The entire application situation would not be quite as bad if a process called "early action" did not exist. Early action (EA), unlike early decision, is non-binding. The difference between EA and regular decision is that EA applications are due earlier and students find out the school's decision in December instead of April. The only exception to this is if the student's admission status is deferred to the regular admission process.

This year everyone is taking advantage of this "phenomenal" process. Five of the top schools offer this application procedure—Harvard College, George-

town University, Brown University, MIT, and Boston College. We have noticed that in our grade a vast majority of top students are applying to most, if not all, of these schools. The problem lies in the fact that a few seniors actually have their hearts set on one of these schools. Unfortunately, because there are so many Schreiber students applying, their chance of getting accepted is greatly minimized. We have come to question the morality of this fact. Why should a student who does not wish to go to a certain school take the place of another applicant who has been working very hard to attend that particular university? We would like to encourage seniors to apply only to schools that they actually have the intention of attending.

At a Northwestern University information session, one of the representatives made a good point. She encouraged all the students to only apply to schools that they would actually be happy in attending. This seems like a difficult concept to many. Yes, students should have safe schools, as well as target schools and reach schools. However, no one should have a particular school on his/her list simply to fill one of these categories. Students should apply to a school because they have a valid interest in attending it. If you can see yourself attending a university regardless of its reputation, then go ahead and apply. In that sense, it is good to keep your options open.

This entire college admissions process brings up another related topic.

We have found the whole scholarship process to be quite disturbing. Many students who do not necessarily need financial aid often apply to everything available to them. Therefore, the top 10% of the senior class monopolizes scholarship opportunities that are not need-based. Thus, a few well-off applicants with the highest grades hoard the money that many of their peers need to a much greater extent. This seems quite undemocratic.

We are not attempting to release our emotions on the few top students of the school. We are merely

directing these concerns to those who will boast their acceptances to schools that they do not have any intention of attending. In addition, we are trying to make people realize that in the name of democracy and liberty where money *should* not hinder a student's education, it is morally wrong to try to squeeze unnecessary scholarship money. Scholarship money is intended to help a student finance a college education, not give a well-off family a little bit more money to put toward another Mercedes-Benz.

Arafat is key in the Middle East

by Danny Morgenroth

Recent events in the Middle East, such as the murder of two Israeli soldiers at the hands of a Palestinian mob, show that violence is continuing to escalate. This violence is the result of the deep rooted hatred between the Jewish Israelis and the Islamic Palestinians who are both seeking control of the Holy City of Jerusalem. There have been a multitude of efforts to minimize and hopefully erase the tensions between the two forces, but nothing yet has proven successful.

I agree with the Clinton administration that the fate of the peace process lies in the palms of Palestinian leader Yassir Arafat. Israel has already forfeited much of its small area of land to Palestine, proving its intent to cooperate with the peace process. I believe it is unrealistic that Prime Minister Ehud Barak will allow Israel to turn over Jerusalem, which contains the most important links to the Jewish history and faith, over to Palestine.

The only way that peace will be restored to the Middle East is if Yassir Arafat becomes less demanding of Israel and learns to compromise.

Books do not cause violence

The removal of Julia Alvarez's book, *In the Time of the Butterflies*, from the school curriculum has had coverage in the news. On October 16, NBC Channel-4 News aired a short news brief on the issue. This included selected footage of the Columbine incident that was played directly before and after footage of Schreiber. The brief tried to make the assumption that such a book may provoke students to do something similar to what a few students did in Littleton, Colorado.

The Schreiber Times strongly believes in the first amendment of the constitution and, as we have stated in our previous editorial, is strongly opposed to the removal of the book from the curriculum. Furthermore, pinpointing this book as the cause of any type of violent act is absurd.

People do immoral things by making immoral decisions, in Columbine or in

any other acts of violence. The printed text on a page in no way, shape, or form causes a student to take part in an act of violence. In addition, it has never been proven that any books, especially not Julia Alvarez's work, influenced the students from Columbine.

As an organization that represents the media, we at the *Times* are appalled that a multi-billion dollar news organization with worldwide recognition, such as the National Broadcasting Company, would stoop down to lurid sensationalism. It is the responsibility of a news organization to uphold principles of objectivity and truth in delivering information to its audience, and this short news brief exaggerated the situation, making things worse than they were. The news story began with the lead, "Reading, writing, and bomb-making?" When a news organization trades objectivity for wit, one wonders how distorted the media has become.

Monfort requires safety revisions

The *Schreiber Times* urges the administration to protect the safety of Schreiber students by increasing the lighting and installing an emergency phone on the pathway to Montfort. When students are rushing to get to class on time, even during the day, the pathway is dangerous. It is easy to slip and fall in normal conditions, but during rain

or snow it is even more likely. If someone fell because it was pitch black or slippery, it would be hard to get help. In addition, it is not safe to walk alone in a dark, vacant, forested area. Simply because faculty members do not use this path does not mean it should be overlooked. Immediate revision is called for.

Times poll shows neglect of democracy

The *Schreiber Times* administered an election pool to a random poll of Schreiber students on October 16 during first period classes. This survey asked students to indicate their preferences for president, senate, and state senate. The student could choose one of the major party candidates, choose a third party candidate, or indicate no preference.

The *Times* is appalled by the apathy expressed

by the student body, especially in terms of the state senate race. In this race, the largest number of student responses indicated no preference. The student body should be concerned with who is representing them in the state senate. The issues that these state senators represent are directly relevant to this particular state. Students should be concerned as to the candidate who will represent the future of the state and the country.

Empathy and courtesy encouraged of students

In the last issue of the *The Schreiber Times*, an article appeared in the News section concerning an incident in which a student placed calcium in a teacher's drink. The article commented on the danger of calcium in its pure state. Although the class was present when the student placed the chemical in the drink, no one spoke up and stopped the student. Even if the students thought it was obvious that the

teacher should not drink the water because of the chemical reaction, the students should have informed the teacher of what had happened. Instead, after class, the teacher was forced to discretely ask a student who had placed the calcium in her drink. Even if a student did not want to reveal the identity of the student who had placed the calcium in the drink, someone should have spoken up.

Times commends Amnesty Int'l

The *Schreiber Times* staff would like to commend Amnesty International for its promotion of the child soldiers issue. Members of the club dressed up in army outfits in an attempt to spread awareness throughout the school. Many students are unaware that 300,000 juveniles, some as young as six, are currently forced to fight and kill in more than thirty countries around the world. The United States government also provides aid to many conflicts that involve child soldiers.

This staff believes that it is important to be informed of this situation and urges Schreiber students to be aware. Write to the local congressmen and express your support for increased aid to recovery programs. Encourage the United States government to support the prohibition of child soldiers worldwide. We also urge the student body to research this topic further or speak to an Amnesty member to find out what else individuals can do.

Times Policy Statement

The *Schreiber Times*' primary purpose is to inform its readers of events, issues, and ideas affecting Schreiber High School. The *Times* also serves as an open forum in which members of the Schreiber community may express their ideas and opinions.

The *Times* will report all news accurately, honestly, and fairly. We will not give preference to any group or individual. We will respect the rights of all information sources and any errors will be corrected promptly.

We will print submitted materials on the basis of their quality and significance as determined by the editors of this publication. The editors reserve the right to print, refuse to print, or return any submitted materials. The editors also reserve the right to edit any submitted articles.

We will print letters to the editors if judged to be of sufficient quality and importance on a space-available basis. We will not print letters that are obscene, libelous, or contain unfounded charges. The *Times* reserves the right to shorten letters if doing so does not alter their meaning, and to choose a representative letter from a group of related ones. Letters do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the editors. We will not print any anonymous letters.

Editorials printed in this publication reflect the opinion of the majority of the editors. If the situation warrants, minority editorials will be published. Editorials do not represent the views of the Port Washington Union Free School District.

We will not publish advertisements if they are deemed libelous, obscene or likely to incite criminal activity. Prices of advertisements are standard and price schedules are available upon request. Advertisements do not necessarily represent the views of *The Times*.

We will establish new policies if the need arises. Until such a point occurs, *The Times* will follow the policy described in this space as well as the guidelines of common sense and reason.

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Students are tired of "Gush" and "Bore"

Sold-out Ralph Nader rally convinces students of the evils of bipartisanship

by Andrew Montalenti and Josh Brandstadter

If you mention Ralph Nader to someone in Schreiber, you are lucky if you get a response like, "Oh, he's that guy who wants to legalize pot, right?" Most people do not even know Ralph Nader is running for president. In fact, most people do not even know Ralph Nader can run for president.

But it is not their fault. Nader is not spoon-fed to the public by a corporation-controlled media. Nader is a distinguished lawyer and an anti-corporation fighter. He is running for president as the Green Party candidate. On October 13, Nader sold out Madison Square Garden, at over 15,000 people for the largest political rally of Election 2000. Yet, the article in *The New York Times* covering the rally was less than a third of a page buried deep within the paper.



Ralph Nader on stage after the dramatic introduction by Michael Moore. Confetti still falling to the ground, Nader tried to calm down the cheering audience so he could begin his hour-long speech.

next morning.

The event itself was a two-hour entertainment bonanza, featuring multimedia presentations of Nader's merits and

are ideologically very similar and that in terms of the actions they will actually take to change this country, virtually the same. At first I myself really did not believe it; but a couple days after the Nader Rally, watching part of the third debate, it clicked. Let me explain:

Ideology: First off, boy George and Al Bore have the exact same views on the death penalty, social security, military spending, free trade, and campaign finance reform. Gore and Bush are also ideologically similar on other issues such as

education. But isn't Bush in favor of vouchers and Gore in favor of alleviating the college tax? While this is true, as NBC's Truthbusters reported, Gore and

exactly the same. For example, Gore claims to be different from George "Drug-free since 1975, 1976" Bush on the issue of how to deal with our nation's oil depletion; taking the environmental approach. However, Gore actually owns hundreds of thousands of dollars in stock in Occidental Oil, one of our nation's largest oil suppliers. Occidental executives have made generous \$10,000 contributions to the Gore campaign. Furthermore, in 1997, Gore's administration sold land to Occidental Oil constituting the largest privatization of federal land in history.

The point here is that they are the same for one real reason: they answer to the same people; big business is the big campaign contributor. How can either one of them truly represent the people if both get their campaign money from the same place? Wouldn't it be nice if we at least had another choice on the ballot where the candidate would not accept any donation greater than one hundred



Pearl Jam's Eddie Vedder giving his performance of Bob Dylan's hit, "Times they are a'changin." Vedder stated that he did so "with the author's permission." His performance was followed by a three-minute standing ovation from the crowd.

Nader is up against nearly impossible odds. The two front-runners for the presidency—a Democrat and a Republican, a "Gush" and a "Bore"—have all of the play. The corporations that control these two candidates are the same corporations that have the power to control the media. Noam Chomsky, a noted sociopolitical critic and professor at MIT, once said, "that's the whole point of corporatization—to try to remove the public from making decisions over their own fate, to limit the public arena, to control opinion, to make sure that the fundamental decisions that determine how the world is going to be run—which includes production, commerce, distribution, thought, social policy, foreign policy, everything—are not in the hands of the public, but rather in the hands of highly concentrated private power."

Despite the support Nader received at the super-rally, such as that of Bill Murray, Tim Robbins, Ani DiFranco, and Pearl Jam's Eddie Vedder, the candidate did not receive mention on any major television networks. His rally was broadcast only on C-SPAN at 4a.m. the

Michael Moore comically speaking of how Bush and Gore agreed thirty-two times during their supposed "debates." The two hours of entertainment was directly followed by confetti falling from the ceiling as Moore introduced the star of the show to the crowd (see back page.)

When Nader came out, he gave a one-hour speech. This in essence converted a large percentage of the room into Green Party devotees. He objectively and effectively ripped apart Bush and Gore's beliefs so that even Republicans walked out of the event with a tear in their eye—a tear of betrayal.

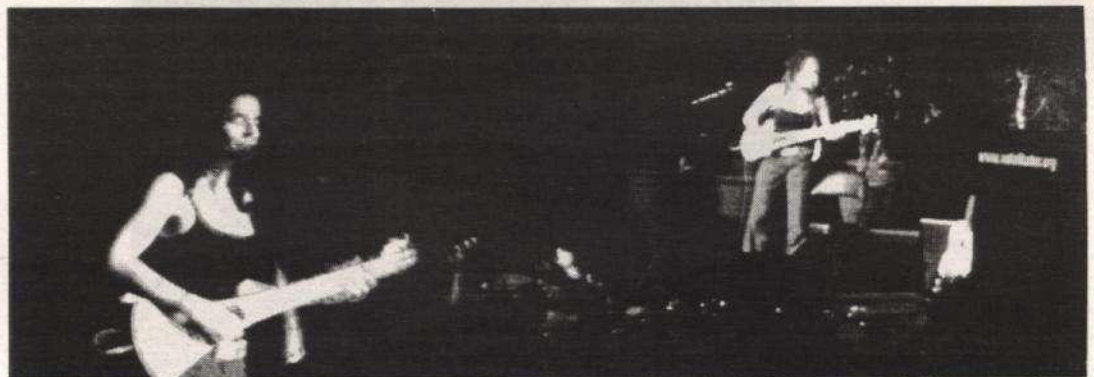
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Bush and Gore the same? Can't be! A notion unbeknownst to mainstream politics is that overall Bush and Gore

Bush's plans lack any significant increase in funding for education. Furthermore, Bush's plan involves taking money away from public schools toward vouchers making public schools worse, and Gore's plan to save the college-bound \$10,000 is completely false since everything except eight-hundred dollars is already given to students under current law. Ralph Nader is the only candidate of the three to actually increase funding for education significantly, which he can do since he is also the only one of the three not beefing up our already billion-dollar military spending.

I must concede that there are ideological some differences between the two candidates. Nevertheless, in how they will act as president, they are

dollars; who cannot be bought? Just another choice besides these two losers; that's all.



Ani DiFranco gives her anticipated performance for the NYC crowd. This was the highlight of the show as DiFranco sang her songs with political overtones.



Bill Murray talks passionately of Nader.

"I'm voting Nader. Some say that's a wasted vote. I ask those people to tell their candidate to come down and tell me I'm wasting my vote; because I don't think those people should be in charge."

paraphrased



George W. Bush is shown in all of his two-dimensional glory. This cartoon short was played prior to the ceremonies.

All photos/graphics by Andrew Montalenti



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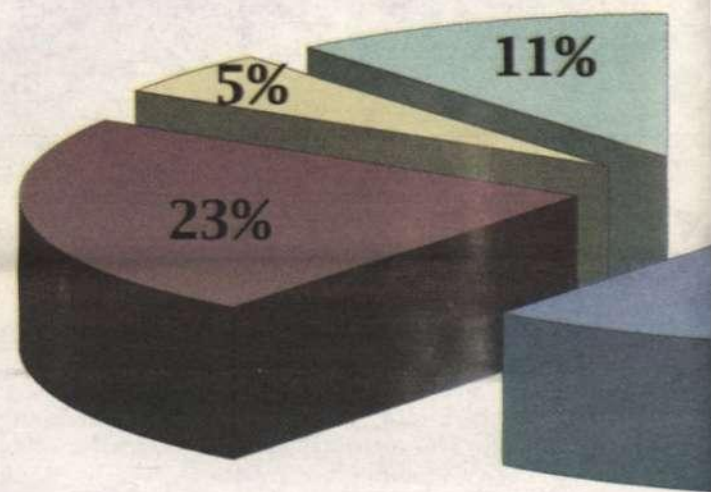
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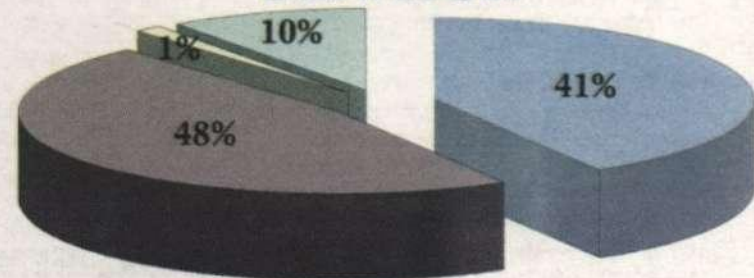


Schreiber's marching band participates in the Pride in Port parade. The marching band performed last Monday, October 23, at Carnegie Hall.



AL GORE G.W. BUSH

SENATOR



H. CLINTON RICK LAZIO OTHER NONE

by Brienne Bellavita and Sarah Morgan

The *Schreiber Times* administered an election poll to first period classes in order to draw conclusions as to the political opinions of the student body on October 16.

The election ballot featured questions regarding a student's preference as to president, senator, and state senator in the upcoming 2000 elections. The calculated percentages were taken from a random pool of two hundred ninety students in grades nine through twelve. These results provide only a glimpse of the opinions of Schreiber students and do not necessarily represent the views of the entire student body.

In terms of the presidential candidates, 60.7% chose Democratic Vice President Al Gore, while 23.1% chose Republican Texas

Governor George W. Bush. 5.1% chose other candidates in third parties while 11% stated that they had no preference as future president.

The senate responses indicated 47.2% voted for Republican candidate Rick Lazio while 41.4% voted for Democratic candidate Hillary Clinton. 1.4% chose other candidates while 10% had no preference.

State senatorial responses indicated that 33.4% voted for Democrat John E. Balboni while 28.6% voted for Republican Michael Malboni. 36.6% of students polled indicated no preference while 1.4% voted for other candidates.

In terms of this random pool, a present number of students indicated no preference for state senator. It is unfortunate that the student body is so largely apathetic as to who will represent its interests in the state senate. Of these students, a majority had a preference for president



Sophomore Ann Sautkulis successfully dodges the Seaford offense. She has been an integral part of the Port squad.

All drawings and graphics by Hillary Broder, Vaishali Jain, David Krauss, and Andrew Montalenti

Port Washington

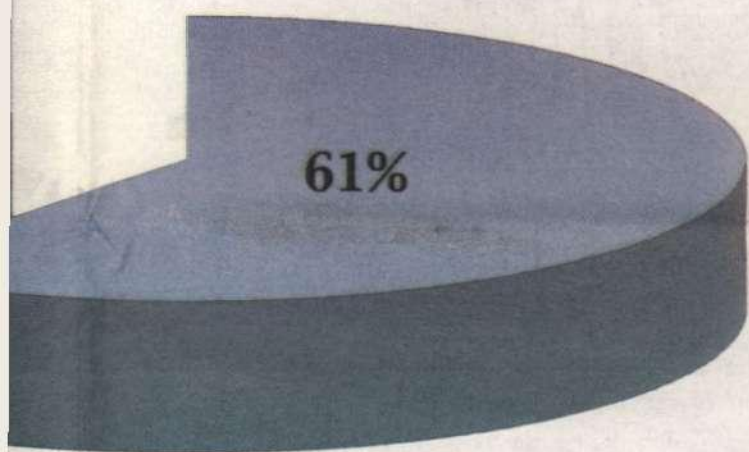
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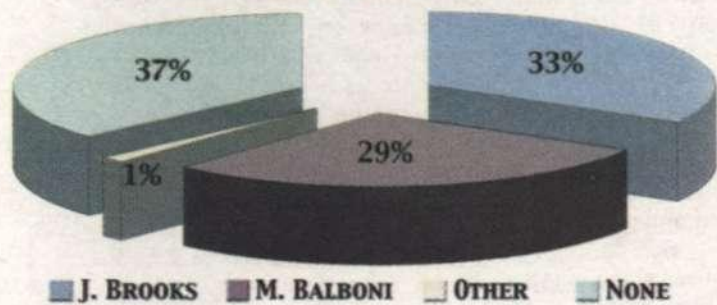
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candidate, with a fewer percentage indicat-
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Of the students that indicated no pref-
erence for president, the majority also did
not indicate a preference for senator and
state senator. It is interesting to note that
a noticeable number of students had no
preference for president but did indicate a
choice senator or state senator. It seems
odd that students who are apathetic as to
who leads our country do care about our
individual state's well being. It is discour-
aging that so many students were non-
chalant as to the candidates for all three
upcoming elections. Whether this indiffer-
ence is a result of lack of interest or lack
of knowledge of the candidates cannot be
determined.
Another interesting factor in this poll
was that a majority of students did not
follow party lines. It is often predicted that
those who vote for a Democrat for president

will also vote for a Democrat in senate and
state senate races. The same is true for the
Republican candidates. However, many stu-
dents who voted for Democrat Gore did not
vote for Democrats Clinton and Brooks.
In this instance, the senate candidates
were usually the source of confusion. Many
who voted for Gore and Brooks did not vote
for Clinton, their associate Democrat. Like-
wise, many students who voted for Bush
and Balboni did vote for Clinton, despite
the fact that she belongs to the Democratic
party.
The responses to this survey indicate
that students tend to look at the views of
individual candidates rather than restrict-
ing their vote to candidates in a particular
party. It is encouraging that these students
do not always limit their views, but look at
a candidate's platform, among other factors
when deciding for whom to vote.



Trick or Treat

by Jenna Milillo

Halloween has always been a time for pranks, candy, and fake horror. As I have grown, the things that I've done in celebration of Halloween have drastically transformed. However, I will always remember my past Halloweens.

When I was a little girl, my friends and I would dress up as animals, princesses, and action figures. My friends and I went from house to house in our little costumes chanting "trick-or-treat." In response to our sweet and sometimes scary faces, neighbors would hand us a candy bar or two. Yet I never thought that Halloween was about the candy or the costumes. Instead, Halloween meant going upstate to pick pumpkins with my cousins, and returning to carve outrageous expressions into them. The enchantment of the bright pumpkins sitting in front of the house gave me a magical feeling.

These customs did not last forever. The school parades and trick-or-treating during light hours slowly became a thing of the past. My friends and I moved to bigger and better ideas. We would choose a specific theme to dress up as, and we went trick-or-treating as a large group. In fifth grade, my friends and I dressed up as the cast from the Wizard of Oz. Although we were stimulated by the idea of going out on our own, it felt slightly awkward. It was the first Halloween that I spent away from my parents and sister. Nevertheless, the night turned out to be fun.

As middle school approached, the option of wearing a costume to school embarrassed me. Nonetheless, my friends and I chose subtle costumes. For instance, in sixth grade we were babies, and another year we decided to be black cats. As I look back into the yearbook at photographs of us all dressed up, I remember why I did it. Instead of everyone wearing jeans and T-shirts to school, it was a change in style and mood.

To my surprise, teachers still dressed up even after I left elementary school. In middle school, my math teacher once dressed up as a princess. Although we had to accomplish work, that day was a little more exciting than usual.

The miraculous feeling of Halloween is the same everywhere for me. Although I miss the feeling of trick-or-treating until dusk with my parents and sister, my new Halloween experiences are still fun and enjoyable ones. Whether you are two or twenty-two, the tradition and thrill of Halloween should always remain.



Student adjusts to Schreiber environment

by Sheldon Wong

As the plane shifted in the sky due to turbulence, the flight attendant announced that the passengers should stay in their seats and buckle up. As the attractive flight attendant stood in front of the microphone and spoke in three different languages, I quickly buckled up. A flight from Tokyo to New York is a fourteen-hour ride, so wearing a seat belt the whole time was not very comfortable.

The only thing that I enjoyed on that plane trip was the night view of New York City. The scene was fabulous; I had a clear view of the busy city. The lights grew bigger and brighter as the plane approached closer and closer. It lowered itself from the dark, friendly skies. I excitedly jumped out of my seat once the seat belt sign turned off. As I walked off the plane I noticed some major differences between Hong Kong and New York. One difference was the size of everything, like houses, cars, and even people.

Although Hong Kong and New York City are located at different ends of the world, they are just like brother and sister. They both have busy streets and

people running around back and forth in and out of skyscrapers. When I stand on the streets of New York I can sometimes imagine myself walking down Wan Chai or Central. Even though the people and culture may seem different, from the outside, on the inside, both cities share the same world.

After our flight, my parents and I caught a cab and arrived home late at night. We decided that the next couple of days would be a good time for me to register at Paul D. Schreiber High School. We made an appointment to see the Schreiber guidance counselor, Mr. Hinchliffe. Luckily for me, my last school, Hong Kong International School, did a fantastic job of transferring my grades and transcript. I had to take two freshmen classes in order to meet the graduation requirements. Later that afternoon I was taken on a tour around the school. Schreiber looked very confusing, with the "science wing" and the classrooms scattered all over.

On my way home, from Schreiber, I noticed several differences between Hong Kong and New York. Walking out of Schreiber, I entered Port Washington. Subway was across from Schreiber instead of tall high-rise buildings. Where

were the high-rise buildings? Where were the karaoke bars? What happened to the red taxis waiting for passengers? I figured that I would just have to go to Manhattan in order to see those things again.

When the first day of school came I was blasted with excitement and arrived at school at 7:30 AM. I did not know anyone that day so I just chilled next to the classroom door of my first period class. I felt like a pumpkin in a cabbage farm. Everything was new to me. I was thankful I did not get lost, but I was totally exhausted after my first day at a new school.

After a week of school, students started asking my name and I got to know a couple of students. As I introduced myself to them and told them where I was from, I usually received a question like, "Where is Hong Kong?" I was shocked because America, especially New York, is one of the busiest and most advanced places in the world and one would expect that people would know about different regions of the world.

As far as I could understand, there are few people from Hong Kong in Port Washington. The largest minority group of Asians in the school are Koreans. Sitting restlessly all by myself at a table, I did not feel very comfortable at lunch. People would constantly ask me if anyone was using the extra chairs at my table. I would reply "no" and rather than joining me, someone would grab a chair and pull it over to another table of twenty riotous, fun-loving people. I felt kind of sad when this happened. I never really thought this would ever happen to me. I had plenty of friends in Hong Kong but now I was "the stranger." I hoped everything would be okay after a couple of weeks of school.



Student finds that entering a new environment and school is a trying experience.

After more than a month of school, things are starting to get better. I am fighting to get to know more and more people from the class of 2003. School in New York is not all that different than other schools that I have attended. Groups are usually formed in the school and I guess I just have to try to find the right group. In many schools that I have attended I was never really in a group. I was usually friends with everyone and was the guy that you would say "good morning" to in the morning and say "goodbye" to at the end of the day.

Although Schreiber is very different compared to my old school, I still enjoy it. Having to leave all my good friends and my girlfriend behind whom I had known for a long time was a really hard thing to do. But I guess I will start over and get to know people from scratch again.



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Student reports that there are many similarities between New York and Hong Kong.



Jeff Nevinis

Student encourages reflection on childhood

by Jessica Gross

As I sat in my room studying for a recent math test, my eyes began to drift upward to the shelves lining my walls. Looking at the collection of items I had placed there, my mind wandered as I recalled the occasions associated with each memento. I remembered the clay ice cream cone from a kindergarten art project, the cutout of my profile from a trip to Disney World, the plush Snoopy from a "Secret Santa," and a tiny sculpture of a lady from the Museum of Miniatures that my mom took me to visit years ago.

This wonderful array of items opened a door to my past. For a little while that day, I began to daydream – not of the future, but of the carefree days from years ago, when my largest decision was which snack to buy from the ice cream truck. And while I only took a few minutes to recall the experiences of my childhood, those moments proved to be a refreshing revisit to my past and a needed break from the everyday pressures of life as a teenager.

As teenagers today, we seem to be so wrapped up in our busy lifestyles that we rarely take a moment to reflect upon our lives as children. High school is a whirlwind of social and academic activities. These can be so intense that high school can sometimes feel a bit suffocating. Homework, clubs, sports, family, and friends all come together and may clash in a hurricane of commitments and pressures.

Every once in a while, teenagers should sit down in a quiet spot and for a few minutes, remember the past. Daydreaming of years ago will give high school students a necessary "breather" from their pressure-filled lives. They might even learn something from the children who they once were.

by Rebecca Henderson

visit colleges and begin the application process. My parents and I got our acts together and quickly planned some visits. I went off to Pennsylvania to visit three schools. What a waste of time that was! When I returned from my four days of complete boredom, I realized that I should have actually done some research about the schools before deciding to visit them.

It is now my senior year even though I still feel like a freshman. The pressure to turn in applications is increasing rapidly. In addition, I love the fact that I am seventeen and I am told to choose a major and a career already. Isn't that the point of college? I can barely get into "R" rated movies! According to our parents, we are still children, so how are we supposed to make adult decisions? That just seems contradictory.

Despite everything, these decisions were not as tough for me as they were for some of my friends. Since I was young, I have been confident that a career in veterinary medicine is what I want to pursue, and I definitely want to remain in the Northeast. All that I have left to do is find my "dream college." However, that is definitely easier said than done. My "narrowing down" technique left me with about thirty schools. After choosing

a variety of reaches and safeties, I found myself with about ten colleges that caught my attention. I obtained the applications, but right now they are sitting in my house collecting dust.

Nowadays, if my mother is not yelling at me to get my life on track, my father is demanding that I organize my future. By now, I know what I have to do. I am sure that everything will get finished, and that I will get into college.

If you are a senior, then you are probably experiencing some of the same feelings that I am. If you are a junior, watch out because it is only the beginning. Do your best this year, because all the traumas and chaos that go along with college selections will hit you suddenly. Freshmen and sophomores: enjoy your high school experience, because it only lasts for four short years. I am not quite ready for the "real world," nor is it prepared for me. But ready or not, here I come.

Schreiber adds guitars to string orchestra

by Sam Eichner

This year, Schreiber's string orchestra has decided on an original idea that differs from the average orchestral arrangement. In an effort to incorporate a variety of instruments and expand the horizons of the orchestra, Mr. Mooney, the orchestra teacher, has decided to allow two of his students, Oki Ishikawa and Sam Eichner, to play guitar in the orchestra. These two students have been allowed to play a piece of their choice on guitar with an orchestral accompaniment written by Mr. Mooney.

When asked how he feels about the presence of guitars in an orchestra, Mr. Mooney replied that it is a very good idea, but it has been done before for literally hundreds of years. Fifteenth century

orchestras were composed not only of the average string instruments of today, but also of guitars.

Even today there are several examples of orchestras containing guitars. The Brian Setzer Orchestra is a prime example. This orchestra is composed of one main guitarist, Brian Setzer, along with a full string orchestra. Many other bands like The Who and Bush perform their songs with orchestral accompaniments from older bands.

One of the main things that pushed Mr. Mooney to use guitars in orchestra was "the opportunity to play popular music that everyone can relate to." He also feels that this original idea will be a great success and if possible would like to do it as often as possible.

In general, pre-existing musical organizations should be open to new

ideas and explore new areas of music. That way, music will become less of a monotonous subject, and actually something that everyone can enjoy according to their own tastes. It is on this basic idea that different groups will be able to expand their musical experiences.

The interesting part of music is that it is able to change and transform into something different, and what better way to transform orchestral music than by adding in a contemporary instrument that is usually not used in such a genre of music. Although you can read an entire book on this subject, the only way to get a real feeling of original idea is to witness it in action.



The Brian Setzer Orchestra illustrates what Mr. Mooney hopes to accomplish by adding guitars to the Schreiber orchestra.

http://so.schreibertimes.com/pictures.html



(f-b) Thomas DiNapoli sets forth his ideas before a group of Port Washington citizens. Jerome Galluscio listens in the background, next to Ian Jay, Model Congress President.

Ira Glaser

Model Congress hosts town meeting with State assembly candidates discussing issues

by Merve Emre

With the presidential elections are so foremost in our minds, the Model Congress hosted a joint speaking of candidates Thomas DiNapoli and Jerome Galluscio this past week, to remind Port Washington of the election for state assembly. These opponents summarized the essential points of the topics of education and environmental concerns,

"...public schools are the great equalizers in American society."

--Thomas DiNapoli

two issues that both students and parents are most able to relate.

The night began with Mr. Galluscio speaking about his history. Throughout his career as a social studies, he adopted a focused awareness on the limitations of rights of children, and decided to turn to a career of law, specifically dealing with child abuse. However, during this period he decided that politics would give him the advantage of helping a multitude of people at one time, and for the past three years he has devoted his time to managing his campaign.

The issues targeted by Mr. Galluscio carry the message that increased state aid is needed for progress to occur in education and environmental preservation. "The educational system needs to

be revamped" he stated firmly. He then went on to explain the necessary steps to accomplish a revolution in educational processes. His plan includes focusing on Long Island with school tax relief and reduction and a definite increase in state aid to spur on the passing of larger bonds for building extensions and smaller classroom size. In reference to state interference, he strongly criticized the penalization of a school district such as Schreiber, because of the high test scores and a specific income bracket in the denial of aid.

In reference to environmental protection, he discussed the region of contaminated soil by Lake Success, strongly advocating the interference of the state government to aid the town of North Hempstead in purchasing and cleaning the area.

Mr. DiNapoli addressed similar points of interest in his introductory speech. In his seventh year represented the region in the state assembly, he wished to make further advances in education, environmental issues, and health care.

His plans for education were similar to Mr. Galluscio's plan in that he believed it was the state government's primary responsibility. He supports investing in an early childhood education, including recognizing and targeting early remedial help and increasing opportunities for education previous to kindergarten. He proposed a special grant of five billion dollars to increase in state aid, additional money for teacher reimbursements, and aid to increase the amount of classrooms.

Furthermore, he strongly sanctioned increased testing for both children and teachers to raise the quality of education and enhance teacher training.

Model Congress advisor Mr. Harry Anderson turned the discussion to the topic of vouchers and asked for the viewpoints on the issue. Mr. Galluscio hesitatingly took the middle road in stating that he was not opposed to or in favor of and that he needed further documentation in order to form an opinion. He adamantly stated, "Schools are not a place for experimentation because they could fail." He proposed his own plan of tax deduction on private schools in the case that private schools did not provide equal educational opportunities for students. Mr. DiNapoli countered this in stating that he was absolutely opposed to vouchers and that it undermined the viability of the public school system. He recognized the burden of public school in that they were unable to be selective about the attending students whereas private schools are able to pick and choose. Furthermore, he discussed the belief that public schools are the great equalizers in American society. He concluded with stating that vouchers only serve to accelerate the decline of the public school system.

The concluding portion of the evening featured questions by the audience. Sophomore Julia Bernstein then asked for the opinions of the candidates on the recent Julia Alvarez book banning. Mr. DiNapoli supported the School Board's right to interfere in what is taught but

believed that students should have access to information and academic freedom, including a program where students have involvement in the textbook selection. However, he also recognized the fact that the more students were restricted

"Schools are not a place for experimentation because they could fail."

--Jerome Galluscio

from access to the book, the more their curiosity would rise to discover the context. If students believed it was an overreaction to the situation, he suggested formulating petitions and appealing before the School Board meeting. Mr. Galluscio who added that he was against any form of censorship reiterated these feelings.

Mr. Anderson introduced the final issue of the night: party politics. Mr. Galluscio once more took the middle road in stating that he did not believe he could tie himself down to one party, although his ideas were fundamentally Republican, and that Mr. DiNapoli held a strong disadvantage because of his responsibility to a particular party. Mr. DiNapoli then explained that his interests and priorities strongly lie with Democratic Party but he is open to the viewpoints of all society members. He memorably ended the night by quoting President Truman: "Vote like a Democrat, so you can live like a Republican."

Arts & Entertainment

THE SCHREIBER TIMES FRIDAY, OCTOBER 27, 2000

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One-Acts Festival presented three full evenings of comedy

by Melissa Hyman

This year's annual One-Acts, presented by the Schreiber Drama Club, hit the stage on Friday, Saturday and Sunday, October 20, 21, and 22. The six plays, *Just Be Frank*, *Labor Day*, *Slop-Culture*, *Oedi*, *Medea*, and *An Episode in the Life of an Author*, made a terrific line-up for a great night of hilarious comedy.

The first play was *Just Be Frank*, a funny, but not side-splitting,



Junior Josh Gelb and senior Jenny Gamell wore "noses" in their play, *An Episode in the Life of an Author*. Here, the two open the scene with a heated argument between husband and wife.

satire of office politics. The lead role, played by senior Maura Kutner, was a conceited woman who declared that when she runs the company, she would demand that all of her workers be completely honest at all times. When her coworkers start saying exactly what is on their minds, however, the audience sees that this may not be such a good idea. Senior Steven Peluso, who directed the play, was



Slop-Culture, directed by senior Jenny Gamell, was one of many hits of the evening. Here, junior Josh Bernhard, and senior Drew DiFonzo-Marks tell Freshman Anushka Peres about the facts of life.

very funny in his role as the woman's boss. Seniors Kate Lazarovic and Gillian Muller, who played Kutner's coworkers, were great as well. But the play's funniest element was the secretary, played by deadpan junior Max Esgrow. His delivery of lines such as, "Hello Miss Porter, how may I kiss your ass today," was hilarious.

The second play, *Labor Day*, brought a more serious element to the One-Acts. Mr. Mark Gamell, the supervisor of the Drama Club, directed the play. Senior Suzanne Davis was excellent as the lead, delivering a powerful monologue about the passage of time that would have made Madonna's hair stand on end.

Senior Jenny Gamell, a veteran of the Schreiber stage, directed the third and, in my opinion, the best, of the One-Acts. The play, *Slop Culture*, begins with two guys, played by the remarkable junior Josh Bernhard and the scantily clad senior Drew DiFonzo-Marks, sitting on a couch discussing their favorite TV shows. Freshman Anushka Peres was extremely convincing as a frazzled but philosophical twenty-something dreading a job interview, and senior Michelle Glasser played her friend, DiFonzo-Marks' sister. The comedic timing and acting in this play were amazing, as was the writing. Also, to add to the overall greatness, DiFonzo-Marks pulled his pants down.

Although *Oedi* was amusing, I did not think it was as streamlined as the other One-Acts. Junior Henry Magel directed the play, which starred seniors Tyler Dzierzawski as Oedipus and Julie Goldin as his wife and mother, Jocosta. Dzierzawski was funny in his role, but his acting was unspectacular. Goldin, on the other

hand became the "Jewish Mother" incarnate. Entertaining at first, this got a little old after a while, especially with the bad puns, such as, "Why do you always have to make everything so complex, Oedipus?" Junior Laura Silver was excellent as the sarcastic blind prophet, Tiresius, and senior Eden Kastle was very good as Oedipus' adviser and brother-in-law, Creon. Senior Evan Behar was also quite funny as the town crier. The direction included some very clever touches, including blackboards complete with smiley faces wheeled out of the wings to show Oedipus' changing approval ratings.

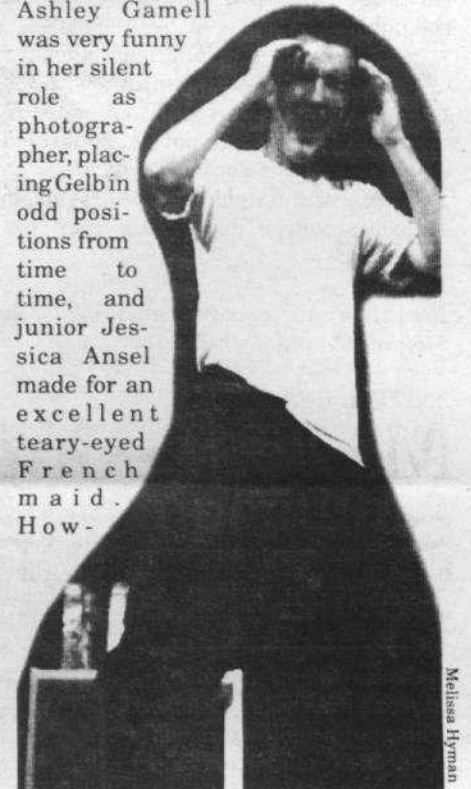
The fifth and funniest play, *Medea* combined great writing, outrageous acting, and beautiful direction. Junior Josh Gelb proved himself as skillful in the director's chair as he is on the stage, and senior Kerin Weinberg was fabulously extravagant as Medea herself. Sweeping dramatically across the stage, she screamed lines like, "I want to kill my children! I want to sleep with my brother! I need a creative outlet for all this anger!" Weinberg went all out, and was hysterical. Just as funny, were the four girls of the chorus. "We are so upset we speak in unison," cried sophomores Katie Hartman, Jamie Ormont, and Vanessa Shkuda, and junior Katie Lagana. Lagana's anguished wailing about the "Looms of Ida" was a high point of the play. Freshman Jimmy Thompson was great as the messenger, and sophomore Evan Jay was very funny as Jason, Medea's cheating husband. But the climax was most definitely the appearance of a tutu Deus Ex Machina, played by senior Josh Hyman, who outdid himself in this role. Standing on an unsteady-looking ladder, the angel put everything to rights: Jason's mistress, Debbie, was dead, and Jason had been lobotomized. The short song-and-dance finale that followed was a credit to Gelb's choreography and sense of humor. This reporter almost peed in her pants.

Directed by Mark Gamell, *An Episode in the Life of an Author* was a little disappointing.



The evening's second play, *Labor Day*, laid a more serious note. In this scene, freshmen Elaine Bensen, Jackie Marx, Ariela Wurtzel, and senior Stephanie Borris play a game.

The outstanding cast, starring junior Josh Gelb as the title character, Gamell as his suspicious drama-queen wife, and senior Kerry Gibbons as a Romanian journalist, got lost in the chaos and silly physical comedy of the play. Freshman Ashley Gamell was very funny in her silent role as photographer, placing Gelb in odd positions from time to time, and junior Jessica Ansel made for an excellent teary-eyed French maid. How-



Senior DiFonzo-Marks delivers an incredible performance in the One-Acts Festival. Here, in *Slop-Culture*, he gives his interpretation of Gilligan's Island.

ever, the cast could not really save the play from itself. However, *An Episode in the Life of an Author* had many funny moments, the best of which came at the end. In a surprise finish that was a tribute to the hard work of Mr. Gamell and Victor Gelb, a cascade of water fell from the ceiling, drenching J. Gelb.

The plays came together to produce a perfect selection of One-Acts for the Schreiber audience. I was happy to enjoy this hilarious and surprising event each of its three nights.

REEL BEAT

Movie Reviews

The Contender is just another political thriller

by Josh Bernhard
and Andrew Montalenti

The newest "political thriller" to hit the screen, *The Contender*, presents the issue of a female vice-president. The vice-president designate, played by Joan Allen, is Senator Hanson, is the daughter of a Republican politician who crossed party lines during her senator term, becoming a Democrat. The president, Jeff Bridges, selects Senator Hanson over Governor Hathaway, the first choice in the public eye.

A determined Republican speaker of the House of Representatives, Gary Oldman, makes it his goal to make sure Senator Hanson does not get confirmed as the vice-president. To do this, he acquires scandalous sex photos from Hanson's college days to discredit her character.

Real-time chat between juniors Andrew Montalenti and Josh Bernhard

INITIAL REACTION

Andrew: When I initially walked out of the movie I was slightly dissatisfied. Although I had liked the movie while watching it, it seemed as if a lot of strings were left untied. Aside from the flaws that were specific and visible, as a whole I felt the story was somewhat empty and one-dimensional in the end.

Josh: I agree with you. Before we went to see *The Contender*, I was not expecting much. I had heard really great things about it, but I have never seen a real "political thriller" with much meat to it. All of them are usually plays on what really happens in the White House; material that is better than anything a Hollywood screenwriter could come up with (at least these days.) But I think it was good for what it was. I guess I cannot blame them for not aiming higher.

A: I had heard good things about it and there is an all-star cast: Gary Oldman, Christian Slater, Jeff Bridges, and Joan Allen. I had thought, 'Well, at least it is a political thriller with good actors.' But good actors cannot save a movie, especially when the characters they are scripted to act are flawed. I am referring specifically to the holes in characters (that ultimately result in holes in the story itself). Christian Slater's character, the esteemed Congressman from Delaware who is twenty-eight years old, confused me. In the beginning, he seemed like the average mediocre politician, swaying his views to fit his personal craving for power. However, in the end, he seemed like a man of ideal, and that becomes 'fuzzy math.' What do you do when a character seems to pull a one-eighty on you without any sort of cause? I thought, 'Man, they just ran out of ideas and needed to put some cliché 'Character Epiphany' in there.'

J: Yeah...I think the movie's only real saving grace was the acting. And I think

Sometimes
you can
assassinate
a leader
without firing
a shot.

gary OLDMAN
joan ALLEN jeff BRIDGES
christian SLATER

THE
CONTENDER



The Contender, starring Joan Allen, Gary Oldman, Jeff Bridges and Christian Slater, was a political thriller about the use of a sexual scandal to destroy the character of a female Vice-President designate.

that the acting can save a movie. It was similar to *The Big Lebowski*, in that the acting also made the movie. I agree with what you said about Christian Slater's character. I thought I had him pegged initially, but then he became something fuzzy and left me ultimately confused. But that is something we can overlook. I think the real problem I had with the movie was that it was not really good, but it was not really bad. There was just too much mediocrity overall.

A: I agree. We can both say we think it is mediocre movie in that it had its good parts (like Jeff Bridges in the presidency and the well-written speech he reads so eloquently). However, the real reason to praise this movie for is because it throws controversial ideas to the forefront. It is really about how the political bureaucracy cannot accept a woman in power. Gary Oldman is particularly disgusted by Senator Hanson's presence and pulls up sexual scandals to smite her character and wreck her chance at the vice-presidency. With the first-lady running for Senate, issues like these become increasingly important.

I think, if anything, a woman slightly interested in politics should see this movie just to see what she can probably

expect.

INDIVIDUAL PERFORMANCES

J: The acting in my opinion was great overall. Those who did not steal the screen did not have to because of the other strong acting presence around them. The actor who I think really stood out was Gary Oldman. He created a whole new persona for himself that completely transported me from Gary Oldman, star actor, directly to right-wing bureaucrat Senator Runyan.

A: Agreed.

J: Hehe. Jeff Bridges was great as the President. He is the Dude (shameful *Big Lebowski* reference - but shame on you if you've never seen it!)

A: Yeah, the acting was great overall.

J: John Turturro always said that once he had his character's hair, he had the part figured out. I think the hair made Gary Oldman.

A: After seeing him in other roles where he seems like 'actor Gary Oldman,' seeing him here is refreshing. He seems like a new person. He seems almost hokey in

the way he walks and acts, yet arrogant and narrow-minded in his ideals, and disturbing to the audience in his scheming and conniving.

J: Well, depending on the political persuasion of the audience.

A: Yeah, but he was played so well that in the end I almost pitied him. That was one thing the script did correctly. And, on Jeff Bridges, he was so perfectly cast and played the part so well that it made the movie worth the eight dollars and fifty cents I had to dish out for it. He had the charisma of FDR, the look of JFK, and (to spice up the examples) the conviction of Samuel L. Jackson (which is a feat in itself). All in all, he made the movie great during the times he graced the screen.

J: Normally the actors-as-presidents thing does not work for me, because I always have trouble separating the actor from the role. I guess it is because being the president is already a superstar role that is so rooted in our lives. I mean, we see the President all the time on the news and such. But I think the fact that he was so likable made it work for me. Also, I thought the fact that they referenced the Clinton 'Monica-gate' scandal was a nice touch. It helped to draw some comparisons between the two situations that the audience needed to make, and I just liked the fact that they did not ignore the material that obviously inspired the movie like so many movies do.

A: It is one thing to be an actor playing a real president like Gary Sinise plays Truman. It is another thing to play a fictitious president. The latter gives you more flexibility as an actor and Jeff Bridges did all he could to exploit that flexibility.

FINAL THOUGHTS

J: On a different note, the cinematography really impressed me. The whole look of the film, for the most part, gave me a kind of documentary feel. The camera is hand held in a lot of the movie, which gives it that shaky "CNN Breaking News" look. The actors were off-center in the frame, and even out of the frame sometimes during dialogue sequences. I thought that it was the perfect way to handle it, and there was a lack of music which helped solidify that, except for a few key scenes where they seemed to toss that entire philosophy out the window as I'm sure you'll agree...

A: Indeed. And I would like to go back to character holes for a second, now that we've mentioned Jeff Bridges. You never see or hear mention of his wife. Something, I think, that cannot be overlooked given the context of the film. You see this man who cannot be married in terms of the way his character acts as a President. Yet, I do not think the current American public (and it is clear

Continued on next page....

Musicals are going to the movies

by Josh Gelb

During the golden age of Hollywood it was common to adopt the newest Broadway musicals to the silver screen.

Nowadays, it seems that it is the complete opposite. While writers for today's movies flourish with semi-original screenplays (aren't all movie plots remakes of other movie plots?), the Broadway musical writers, composers, and lyricists seem to be looking for ideas at the nearest Blockbuster Video.

Beginning in the eighties, when it was difficult to find people creative enough to write original musicals, with the exception of Stephen Sondheim and certain others, writers and composers began looking for their material at the cinema down the street. Out of these came certain successes such as, Jerry Herman's *La Cage Aux Folles*, based on a French movie of the same title. This eventually became the basis for the hilarious Nathan Lane, Robin William's comedy *The Birdcage*. Most of the attempts, however, to "musicalize" films have not been as successful.

The greatest flop in all of musical theatre history is entitled *Carrie*. It is based on the Stephen King movie of the same name. Not only did it include overly tacky music trying to simulate the extremely two dimensional teenagers, but barrels of real pig's blood was dumped on the paranormal heroine directly before the climax of the play, where she kills all of her peers. The play did have a celebrity to keep ticket sales up, the veteran actress Betty Buckley, but not even a celebrity could dissuade an audience from thinking that this was the epitome of wretched theatre.

After a disaster such as this, which took place in 1988, you would think that the musical collaborators would realize that movie plots are not fit for the stage. A movie is two-dimensional, not necessarily in character but definitely in the sense that it is on the flat screen. Since we are not in the presence of real people, characters in a film or television show can be more easily forgiven for their lack of humanity. A musical, however, is very different. Since the characters must spontaneously burst into song, they have to be as realistic as possible so when they do begin singing it seems like the most natural thing to do. Because the audience and characters are in the same building there is a certain expectation of brilliance from the script and music, especially at sixty bucks a seat.

But theatre did not realize the flaw of the movie turned musical. In the nineties, it began to produce on stage every film it could get its hands on. *The Goodbye Girl*, the hilarious comedy starring Richard Dreyfus and written by Neil Simon, became a musical early in the decade, with a script once again by Simon, and music by *A Chorus Line's* Marvin Hamlisch and lyrics by *City of Angles'* David Zippel. Even though the piece brought in Martin Short to play the Dreyfus role, as well as Bernadette



Peters as his leading lady, nothing could ameliorate this completely helpless musical. Later in the nineties *Big*, the Tom Hanks film about the boy who successfully wished to be big, became a musical with music and lyrics by Richard Maltby and David Shire. Sporting a chorus of children as well as a skateboard ballet, this musical became one of the biggest box office flops ever.

In today's theatre, there are musical adaptations of movies on every street. *Footloose*, the show which only draws teeny boppers who like to see men in tight pants do splits, *Saturday Night Fever*, which should have closed a long time ago, and coming to Broadway this year, *The Full Monty*, which proudly includes full frontal

male nudity. Is *Showgirls*, the musical, coming next? And can anyone ignore the flow of Disney cartoons made musical extravaganzas such as *The Lion King* and *Beauty and the Beast*?

Presently, in London, a new musical movie is running that is supposedly coming overseas rather soon. The piece is the "musicalization" of *The Witches of Eastwick*. This dark comedy, originally starring Jack Nicholson, Cher, Susan Sarandon, and Michelle Pfeifer, has now been turned into a lovely romp through every musical ever imagined. Not only is there trouble in river city in this musical,

The Contender Review (cont'd from page 18)

this is merely in the not-so-distant future) would elect a single president. Family values have become an integral part of the presidential run and have been for years. Likewise, the perspective of Jeff Bridges' wife was a needed element. Where would the First Lady be in this case, the smearing of a female Senator during a Vice-presidential confirmation? This question is never answered, and neither is that of Jeff Bridges' marital status, which I think is something that took away from the film.

J: Yeah...but you know, that fact had never occurred to me until you mentioned it afterward, which leads me to believe that it's possible that they just didn't feel it was needed (which, in my case, was true). But either that or they purposely didn't want to deal with it, which is just irresponsibility. It seems to me, since that would make for some great story and character moments and better help to define the controversy, which was at the center of the film. But then again I'm not one to be pointing fingers.

RATING:

(out of five stars)

Andrew:

Josh:

but there is another wonderful rendition on the devil from *Damn Yankees*. If you have seen any classic musical theatre from the non-film era, you have seen *The Witches of Eastwick: The Musical*. True it was enjoyable, but original? Well, that is a different story.

A musical can successfully be made into a movie as seen by *Oklahoma* or *Singing in the Rain*, because it can be extended into a larger scale event. But

a movie, especially those in the likes of *Carrie* and *The Witches of Eastwick*, are just not made for the stage. Before this realization hits not only the writers and composers but the general public, we must deal with the full frontal male nudity of *The Full Monty*, and the leisure suits of *Saturday Night Fever*. We must hope that later in our lives we will not have to sit through *Mallrats* the extravaganza and *Terminator III: This*

"Meet the Parents" hits the box office

by Laura Silver

While many of us try to go through life with a blasé attitude toward pretty much everything, even the most apathetic among us would have to admit there is something neat in seeing our own town in a movie. "Meet the Parents," directed by Jay Roach, is worth seeing merely for the car chase scene down our very own Main Street and the panorama shot of Louie's Restaurant, which elicited the most enthusiastic response of the night in the theatre in which I viewed the movie. The fact that it has genuinely funny moments and is an enjoyable light comedy is even more of an incentive to go see it.

The audience is introduced to Greg Focker (and trust me when I say they

get more mileage out of that name than you would believe), played in an adorably hapless manner by Ben Stiller, and his girlfriend to whom he plans to propose, Pam Byrnes, played by Teri Polo. Pam takes Greg to meet her parents in a weekend which proves Murphy's Law to its fullest extent: if something can go wrong it will, and if something cannot go wrong, it will anyway. Through the unbelievable number of unfortunate coincidences in the movie, Pam's parents, Jack and Dina, played by the gruff Robert De Niro and Blythe Danner, are convinced Greg is everything from a pot head to a sadomasochist. This is not exactly a ground-shaking, momentous movie, but it is a perfectly enjoyable way to spend an hour and forty-five minutes of your time.

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VIKING SPORTS

Field hockey team continues its incredible season *Team improves record to 8-2-1 with victory over Great Neck South*

by Min Suh

Coach Bob Busby's quick and decisive actions have led the varsity field hockey team to a record of eight wins, two losses, and one tie.

The array of wins started with the game against East Meadow. It was expected to be an easy win and Port was not disappointed.

The game started off with a dominating feel. In the first half, Port and East Meadow moved up and down the field frequently. East Meadow can drive hard, but the Port defense was good enough to get the ball out of home territory and move it up the field. With excellent coordination and communication, senior Nathalie Faure drew first blood and scored two goals in the first half. A penalty was called on Port in the box, but the penalty shot never made it inside the goal. The first half ended with a score of 2-0.

The second half was not much different than the first half. The ball volleyed back and forth, but Port's speed and skill dominated the field.

Senior Karen Cullinane scored on a corner making the score 3-0. The game was nearly over. The dribbling and speed paid off for sophomore Lindsay Levin as she fancied the defense with a fourth and final goal for Port, making the final score 4-0.

Port then traveled to Seaford and



Sophomore Valerie Herz eludes a Garden City defender. Garden City, the defending state champion, defeated Port 6-3.

earned another win. Knowing the ability of the other team from its previous 5-0 blowout, the Lady Vikings were confident that they could do it again if they stayed on their toes. Seaford had weak goal

keeping and Port took advantage of the opposition quickly.

Although Seaford had improved its defense from the previous meeting, Port had also improved its offense.

Levin once again showed off her skill in the right wing and scored two goals for Port. Both Faure and sophomore Valerie Herz scored a goal against Seaford to stretch the lead to 4-0. The game ended with this score.

In its next game, Port faced off against powerhouse Garden City. The game started out poorly as both teams were struggling for possession, moving up and down the field. Garden City and Port both had very good offense, but Port's defense was unable to keep up with the Garden City offense. The opposition scored two goals to end the half.

Port had a revitalized moral and managed to score on a goal by Herz off a pass from Levin. Garden City answered with two goals. Herz then scored another goal to cut the lead. Levin then scored her first goal of the game for Port. It was the last goal for Port, as Garden City scored again to make the final score 3-6.

Port faced off against Great Neck South on October 17 and won. Faure opened up the game with a goal in the first minute. The team went on to score three more goals in the first half, and lead 4-0 at halftime. Sophomore Anne Sautkulis had one goal, Faure had two goals, and senior Jackie Wright had one goal.

The field hockey team will be entering the playoffs soon and is a strong contender for the county championship. However, to win the title, Port will probably have to go through powerhouse Garden City.

Varsity tennis falls in conference semifinals *Port eliminated from post-season with a 3-4 loss to South Side*

by Timothy Koo

The Lady Vikings varsity tennis team's bid for the Conference II championships was cut short last October 19 in its semi-finals match against South Side High School. Despite a strong start, Port lost the game 3-4 to put an end to its post-season.

Port started off strong against Southside. First singles freshman Megan Zebroski quickly defeated her opponent in two straight sets, 6-1, 6-0.

M. Zebroski has had a very successful season on the team, going undefeated without giving up a single set the entire season. Coach Stan Makover noted her as "being in a class by herself."

After a hard-fought match, second singles junior Katie Zebroski defeated her opponent 6-2, 7-5. Although she was down 0-5 in the second set, K. Zebroski came back to defeat her opponent in a thrilling victory to put Port ahead 2-0.

Things were looking good for Port but a quick succession of losses ended the match for the Lady Vikings. The second

doubles team, comprised of senior Blythe Ford and freshman Sonoma Contractor, lost to South Side 2-6, 2-6.

Despite an intense tiebreaker in the first set, third singles freshman Melissa Livingston was defeated 6-7, 3-6. The first doubles team, consisting of seniors Jen Scallon and Roxanne Tingir, were also defeated despite a hardfought tiebreaker in the first set, 6-7, 1-6.

A 6-7, 2-6 loss by fourth doubles, senior Samantha Cooperman and junior Jade Collett, resulted in the fourth win to South Side and ended the post-season for Port.

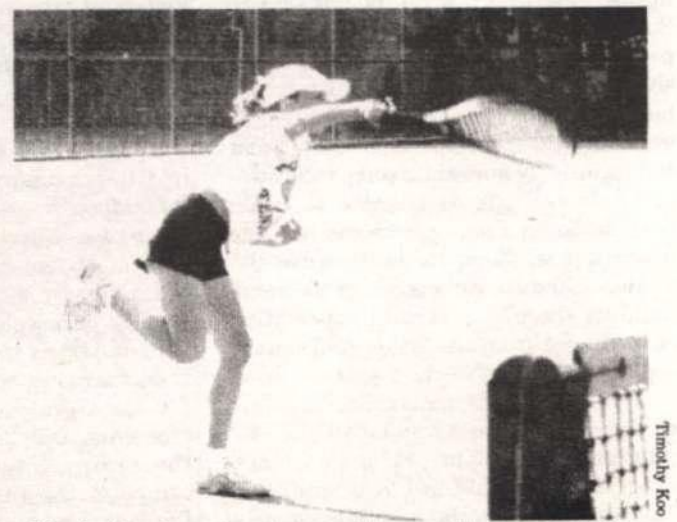
Despite its loss, Coach Makover expressed no qualms about the game's outcome. He stated, "We were defeated by a much stronger team." When asked to comment on the team's season, he replied, "We've had a very successful season. We're 9-3 and second in our Division."

Before this game Port had been very hopeful. Port's game against North Shore on October 17 had quite a different outcome than the semifinals did.

Tied with North Shore with a record of 8-3, the team knew that the outcome of the match would determine who would be advancing to the semi-finals. Coach Makover could not give a prediction of the outcome, saying, "Our teams are very even. It could go either way."

However, the Lady Vikings proved they were playoff material as they went on to win the game, 4-3. M. Zebroski and K. Zebroski defeated their opponents 6-0, 6-0, and 6-1, 6-3, respectively.

Third doubles freshman Jane Forman and eighth grader Danielle Bourguet dispatched their challengers in three



First singles, freshman Megan Zebroski hits an overhead smash against her opponent in the semifinals against South Side. She went on to win 6-1, 6-0.

sets, 4-6, 6-1, 6-2. Cooperman and Collett won their fourth doubles match, 6-2, 5-7, 7-5, to clinch Port's 4-3 win over North Shore.



Lincoln Douglas Debate Team members (l-r) freshman Jeffrey Stricker, senior Mark Hiller, freshman Brett Abrams, and sophomore Merve Emre attended a the New York City Invitational at Bronx Science High School on October 13 through 15. Hiller won the competition.

Debate team successfully starts new school year

by Sarah Morgan

The Lincoln Douglas Debate team participated in two recent tournaments on October 7 and October 13 through 15.

Members of the Debate team, advised by social studies teacher Ms. Renee McClean, participated in the intermediate and varsity divisions at a regional debate located at Kellenberg Memorial High School on October 7. Seniors Justin Berkowitz, Jesse DeSalvo, Mark Hiller, and Roxanne Tingir, junior Josh Brandstadter, sophomores Julia Bernstein, Merve Emre, Joe Jailer-Coley, Melody Malekan, Obreiani O'Brien, and Andrew Pariser; and freshmen Brett Abrahms, Ritesh Chatterjee, Robert Grogan, Jeff Stricker, and Henry Tarlow participated in this debate.

The resolution debated was whether or not colleges have the obligation to ban hate speech. The participants were required to present the affirmative and negative sides of this issue. After four rounds of debate, participants were sorted by record and points accumulated. Berkowitz, DeSalvo, and Tingir served as judges at the debate. Hiller placed first in the varsity division.

Hiller, Emre, Abrahms and Stricker participated in the New York City Invitational at Bronx Science High School from October 13 through 15. Ninety-six debaters from different states across the country participated in this highly competitive and extremely notable national tournament.

After each participant competes in seven rounds, the top thirty-two advance to the double octa-finals. From here on there is single elimination, and only sixteen people advance to the octa-finals. The debaters continue to be eliminated until only two remain in the finals. These final five rounds are called break rounds. Hiller placed first overall.

Due to his win, Hiller can now apply to participate in the Tournament of Champions, which is one of the most prestigious debate competitions in the country. He is now recognized among the best debaters in the country.

Hiller stated, "Nobody really expected that some kid from Long Island could do well at the tournament, much less win it. Hopefully now we'll gain some respect from the rest of the country. In any event, there's a whole year left, and we're not going anywhere." He compared his victory to "a minor league team winning the World Series."

Juniors win NOW award

by Adam Carron

Juniors Erin Ly and Myung-Hee Vabulas received the Long Island National Organization for Women (NOW) Award as part of the "Young Woman of Achievement" contest.

NOW is an organization devoted to expanding the rights of women through education and litigation. Half a million members and hundreds of chapters constitute the organization.



Erin Ly

Ly and Vabulas, along with Principal Dr. Sid Barish attended a banquet at Hofstra University on October 22. In order to enter the contest, it was mandatory for students to be recommended by a teacher and be approved by their school principal. The teacher who recommended the student was required to give a brief explanation of the students' achievements and contribu-

tions. Ly and Vabulas were nominated by their science research teacher, Ms. Phyllis Serfaty, for their astounding achievement in science research.

Ly is involved in several different extracurricular activities in addition to her contributions to science research. These activities include Sports Night, Student Council, and junior class club. She has received several awards in science research for her accomplishments. When asked about her fulfillment she said, "I was surprised and honored to receive this award and would like to thank Mrs. Serfaty for the nomination."

Vabulas is also involved in a variety of extracurricular activities. She is the Editor-in-Chief of the *Port Light*, as well as a member of the Latin club, the junior class club, and the book club.



Myung-Hee Vabulas

Board chooses tentative school facilities plan

by Caroline Axelrod

The Board of Education (BOE) chose a \$43.3 million school facilities plan at a BOE meeting on October 10. The plan is for five kindergarden to fifth grade schools to accommodate 2400 students, one six through eighth grade school at Weber to accommodate 1200 students, and one high school to accommodate 1600. The need for these changes and expansions are a result of the anticipated growing population and increased enrollment. The BOE opted for this plan after eliminating the two sixth to eighth middle school option (at Sousa and Weber), and the option that changed school grades into kindergarden to fourth, fifth to sixth, and seventh to eighth. This plan is a different version of the declined \$86.7 million bond voted on last May.

The selected plan includes repairs and renovations for all elementary schools, the middle, and the high school and are subject to change. The expense of repairs and expansion of Schreiber High School of 1600 students will cost \$19,628,440, almost half the total cost. The Administration Building will expand to include approximately 10,000 square feet of Salem displacement, a cost of \$1,600,000. The total cost of Weber Middle School of 1200 students is \$8,792,136.50.

The total elementary school cost is \$10,568,390, with \$2,716,458.22 appropriated for the Daly School of four hundred students, \$996,568.90 appropriated for the Guggenheim School of five hundred sixty students, \$1,638,227.78 allotted for the Manorhaven School of four hundred forty students, \$5,216,710.10 for the renovation of the Salem School of four hundred students, and no cost for the Sousa School of six hundred students.

A number of high cost projects that had originally been deferred are included in the estimated cost. These include gym and cafeteria roof replacement in Guggenheim, a cost of \$208,250; window replacement in Salem, a cost of \$386,750;

replacement of library window wall in Guggenheim, a cost of \$59,500; roof replacement at Sousa for \$261,800; replacement of south window wall on two-story wing of Sousa for \$243,950; replacement of gymnasium floor at Schreiber with cost of \$136,850; an upgrade of Schreiber unit ventilators at \$345,100; replacement of bus entrance doors at Schreiber costing \$23,800; and lastly, technology wiring at Schreiber at \$535,500.

Schreiber High School will add eighteen new classrooms, five art rooms, and five science labs and cafeteria space, as well as undergo interior renovations and site improvements. The school will also utilize existing portables. Weber Middle School will add sixteen new classrooms as well as have classroom and support space renovations.

At Daly Elementary School, renovation highlights include the addition of five new classrooms, the utilization of existing portables for the Pre-K program, the current gym/auditorium will be changed into a multipurpose room, the addition of a new gym, and interior renovations and site improvements. At Guggenheim, three classrooms will be added and no interior renovations will occur. At Manorhaven, the existing gym will expand, existing portables will be utilized and other interior renovations and site improvements will take place. At Salem Elementary School, four special education and reading classrooms will be added, the gym, kitchen, and cafeteria will be refurbished and other interior renovations and site improvements will take place. No additions or refurbishment will take place at Sousa.

The plan stated above is an option proposed by architect Ralph Ottaiano. However, Mr. Ottaiano resigned on October 13 and the BOE discussed how to handle the situation in a meeting on October 17. A BOE committee is currently in the process of selecting a new architect and will hopefully have finalists in the next few weeks. As a result of this situation, the second bond vote will take place later than early January as originally planned. This plan, however, is not the final plan,

Book banning publicized on Channel 4 News

by Merve Emre

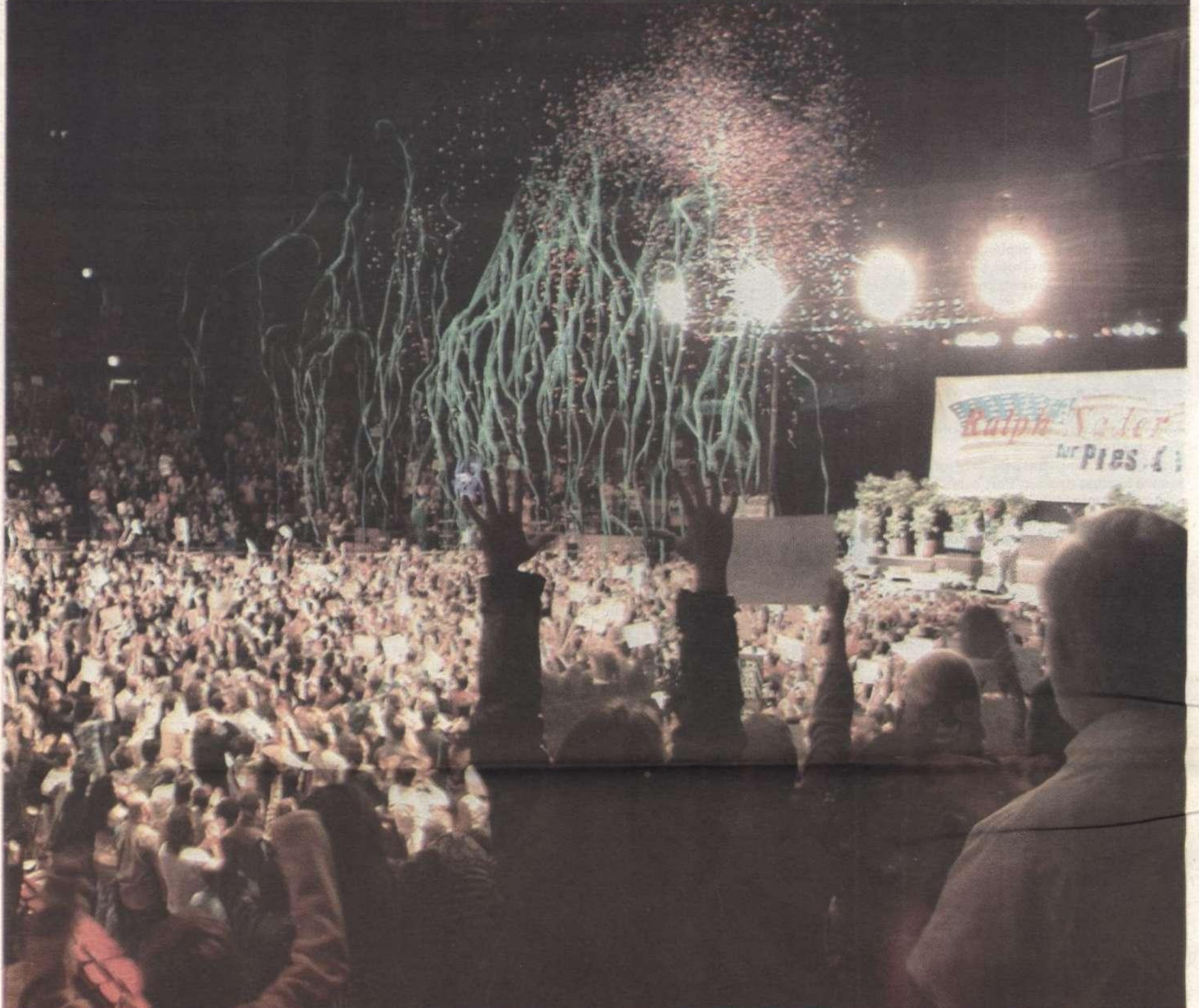
Channel 4 News recently featured a segment concerning the recent vote to table the banning of the book *In the Time of the Butterflies*, by Julia Alvarez from the school curriculum. The Board of Education (BOE) made this decision on September 19 due to its disapproval of a diagram on how to build a timing device for a bomb.

The news brief consisted of opinions from BOE president Mr. Richard Sussman, NYCLU president Ms. Barbara Bernstein, and Port Washington Teacher's Union president Ms. Mary Anne Cariello. Juniors Caroline Ashby and

Ashley Beecher were also interviewed. Mr. Sussman stated that it was a safety issue that prompted the BOE to ban the book. However, this issue quickly resulted in a letter from the New York Civil Liberties Union. Ms. Bernstein responded by explaining that the reaction was exaggerated and that the same information could be easily located on the Internet. Ms. Cariello said that teachers should be allowed to decide on the curriculum without interference from the Board of Education.

Ashby and Beecher both stated their opinions that students are not going to resort to acts of violence because of exposure to the diagram and there was no real reason for the book to be banned.

Nader sells out the Garden



Fans reach for the confetti falling from above as Green Party presidential candidate Ralph Nader was introduced by Michael Moore, film-maker and comedian. Moore, the chief celebrity supporter of the candidate, stood on-stage, clapping in support of his presidential choice.

by Andrew Montalenti

Ralph Nader is not just the presidential candidate for the Green Party. He is a visionary, a fighter, and a leader. First time voters and aged citizens tired of the bipartisan policies rallied in Madison Square Garden for the largest Ralph Nader super-rally in the country.

Known for his illustrious career as an anti-corporation lawyer, Nader targeted General Motors and the American auto industry in his best-selling book *Unsafe at Any Speed: The Designed-In Dangers of the American Automobile*. When GM attempted to discredit him, he sued them for invasion of privacy. This landmark case forced the president of GM to go

before a Senate Committee and admit wrongdoing, and a series of safety laws were passed which forced the auto industry to make drastic design changes for safe motor vehicles.

Since that case in 1965, Nader has been a freedom fighter for democracy and American consumers; and now, he has become the Green Party candidate for President of the United States of America.

Nader was supported at the 15,000

person, sold-out super-rally by a slew of celebrities including Michael Moore, Susan Sarandon, Tim Robbins, Bill Murray, Pearl Jam's Eddie Vedder, Ani DiFranco, Patti Smith, and the Master of Ceremonies, Phil Donahue.

The rally began with a multimedia presentation of the candidate's achievements, followed by two hours of entertainment including

much Republican and Democratic bashing, songsinging, and comedic stand-up by the celebrity supporters.

The last hour was a fiery speech from Nader, discussing the issues that our two presidential frontrunners failed to even mention in their debates. These issues included corporate influence and the harm caused by WTO and NAFTA. As most people are aware, not only was Ralph Nader not allowed to participate in the political debates, but when he bought a ticket he was not permitted to sit in the audience.

Attending one of these super-rallies is one of the only ways for a potential voter to truly hear Nader speak his mind.

See companion article in Features...



This is a panoramic view of the sold-out Madison Square Garden during the Ralph Nader super-rally in NYC. All photos/graphics by Andrew Montalenti